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Southeast Asia Report

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AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

DEPUTY PM TO VISIT ZIMBABWE, ZAMBIA--Australia's deputy prime minister, Mr Bowen, will meet officials of the African National Congress during a visit to Zambia in the next few days. The ANC is the main outlawed organization fighting to topple the white minority government in South Africa. Mr Bowen is on his way to Zimbabwe where he will attend the Commonwealth law conference in Harare. At the prime minister's request, Mr Bowen will also make a brief visit to Zambia. He will meet President Kaunda and senior officials of the African National Congress for talks in the lead-up to next month's meeting of Commonwealth heads of government in London. [Text] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0430 GMT 24 Jul 86 BK] /12624

JABIRU OIL PRODUCTION--Production from a major oil field up Australia's northwest coast is starting this weekend. Output from the Jabiru Oil Field in the Timor Sea is expected to average more than 13,000 barrels a day. The minister for resources and energy, Senator Evans, says sales of Jabiru oil will make a useful contribution to Australia's export income over the next 5 to 8 years. Senator Evans says the sales are expected to total about \$90 million [Australian dollars] in the first year of production. [Excerpt] [Melbourne Overseas Service in English 0830 GMT 19 Jul 86 BK] /12624

CSO: 4200/1300

INDONESIA

XANANA OUTLINES POLITICAL SYSTEM FOR EAST TIMOR

Lisbon DIARIO DE NOTICIAS in Portuguese 18 Jul 86 p 9

[Article by Oscar Mascarenhas: "FRETILIN Demands a Democratic System for East Timor Equal to Portugal's"]

[Text] An Indonesian primary school notebook with a brightly colored cover was used as a ploy to smuggle out a lengthy joint interview with Xanana Gusmao, the Timorese guerrilla leader, to Lisbon. Several months ago, at the initiative of the Commission on the Rights of the Maubere People, headquartered in Lisbon, DIARIO DE NOTICIAS (DN), along with four other dailies, a weekly, three radio stations and two news agencies, transmitted a series of questions by radio to the guerrilla campaign's general headquarters in East Timor. The Australian Coalition for East Timor (ACET) was the intermediary that transmitted the questions. Technical problems prevented reception of the reply by the same procedure, so Xanana Gusmao typed his answers in an ordinary school notebook, initialing every page, even the deletions he made in editing. In this interview, Xanana replied to DN that "FRETILIN wants to assure that East Timor's future democratic system will be equivalent to Portugal's, and in order to ensure this, we are willing to undertake any commitments with neighboring countries and Portugal which will guarantee a control mechanism." We will attempt to provide a summary of these 23 single-spaced pages on the eve of Indonesia's celebration of the tenth anniversary of annexation. From the other side of the barricade, Xanana infused potential beauty into a guerrilla's discourse, avoiding romanticism, but artfully describing the man who has been willing to fight for ten years and more.

Biography. Jose Alexandre Gusmao--Xay Rala Xanana Gusmao is his Maubere name--was born in the Manatuto region and like many other leaders in the East Timor Liberation Movement, he began his education at the Dare Seminary. He went on to the Dili Lyceum, where he graduated. He joined the editorial staff of A VOZ DE TIMOR on 25 April 1974. An outstanding, militant soldier in FRETILIN, he was appointed vice president of the Central Committee's Information Department in October 1975. One of the few survivors of FRETILIN's directorate following the Indonesian search and destroy operations (September 1977 to March 1979), he was one of the organizers of the Maubai Conference held in March 1981, which laid down guidelines for the political and military reorganization of the resistance and formed a new directorate. Since then, he has held the offices of commander in chief of Armed Forces for the National Liberation of East Timor (FALINTIL) and chairman of the National Resistance

Revolutionary Council (CRRN). Under his leadership, preliminary talks were held on 23 March 1983 with Indonesian occupation officials and a policy for national unity was defined which led to the recent accord between FRETILIN and the UDT. In addition to his abilities as a political leader, Xanana Gusmao has artistic sensitivity. This is seen in his poetry, which has been printed in various publications, and some of his poems appeared in "May They Bury My Heart in Ramelau," a collection of East Timorese poetry published by the Angolan Writers Union. (Information provided by the Commission for the Rights of the Maubere People.)

This question concerns the image of leftist force which FRETILIN acquired in Portugal after 25 April and which has persisted to this day. Xsnana rejects this and traces the movement's evolution from FRETILIN's point of view. He pointed out that "It was not FRETILIN's initiative to intervene violently in the process of decolonialization. Irresponsibility on the part of the colonial government in finally deciding on a coup in August 1975 should be seen as the beginning of the deterioration of the situation, which occurred due to the UDT's armed movement." He admitted that "extremism continues to be a negative cliché applied to FRETILIN," but he pointed out that this is "only a superficial reflex action." FRETILIN, according to him, had to cope with a blockade situation in East Timor, and it was this blockade that "prevented knowledge abroad, for example, of the existence of a nationalist faction in the UDT, since we all thought that the UDT (of the Carrascaloes and the Lopeses), following the unsuccessful attempt to wipe out FRETILIN, was integrationist and a big collaborator in the aggression against and repression of our people."

FRETILIN Has Matured

At any rate, Xanana concluded his reply to this question in a significant manner: "FRETILIN's political maturity is characterized by the stigma of war and we do not in any way want to drag the Maubere people to their own destruction. We want to ensure peace and stability in the area. I believe that they will understand me in Portugal when I say that FRETILIN has matured and is now accepting and will accept in the future the same concept of responsibility, the complex situations which are and will be involved in the struggle for the national liberation of our people! During those same years, which saw a continual political crisis in Portugal, this long-drawn-out war shaped our character and provided us with more realistic and more practical direction so that we could face our ever-growing difficulties with the same determination."

DN also asked Xanana to compare colonial Portuguese domination and Indonesian domination in broad, practical terms. Xanana declined to make a comparison because he thinks that it would "only invite analytical errors," since such a comparison "could not develop the issue beyond the strict limits necessarily imposed by the term 'domination.'" In spite of this, he added that "if there were a basis to serve as a frame of reference for formulating a comparison, we would only find it in the effects of this war, which in a short time has killed more than ONE THIRD of the population of East Timor."

Fifteen to One

Some of the questions submitted by the media were combined to avoid repetition. For example, a question about the role of the Catholic Church in the Timorese resistance movement was asked by DN and DIARIO POPULAR. The PALINTIL commander in chief replied that the Catholic Church "has been a moral support to our people in their resistance to the deplorable Indonesian occupation. The Catholic Church in East Timor, for which we have the greatest respect and admiration," he went on, "insofar as its resources allowed, has also provided valuable support to the poorest people, chiefly in medical assistance to the sick. I take this opportunity to point out that the courageous and firm position taken by Monsignor Martinho Lopes, who openly defended the rights of the Maubere people, as did many other priests who were summoned for frequent interrogations or insulted and even roughed up for their stance, not to mention the fact that Indonesians were assigned to keep them under surveillance." Xanana also mentioned the role of Monsignor Filipe Belo, current head of the Catholic Church in East Timor, who has been threatened and insulted by Indonesians for reporting on the true local situation.

In reply to the remaining questions, Xanana Gusmao indicated that the ratio of forces has been estimated at "10-15 to 1 in the tactical and operational field," the occupiers acting in three basic modes: deploying five to eight heavy artillery battalions and armored cavalry at strategic locations, certain stretches of roads, villages and fields to carry out mop-up operations; deploying troops to carry out heavy combat operations; or carrying out simultaneous operations throughout the area."

Same Blood

Indonesian military superiority still has not gained control of the entire area, for, as Xanana says, "if it had, there would be no armed resistance." Also, the definition of liberated areas has been somewhat modified in East Timor. Xanana explained that "In a guerrilla war like ours, which is being carried on in a very small area, we consider liberated areas to be the extensive areas where we live." Speaking in great detail and even using an Indonesian military map to point out both sides positions', Xanana explained in general terms how the occupiers protect themselves: around each village for a radius of 500 to 700 meters, around the perimeter of the cleared land, there is a boundary past which the people are not allowed to go. Within that area they are authorized to plant gardens. Then there is a one-kilometer zone which is considered a no-man's land, a transitional zone between areas controlled by the occupiers and those controlled by the guerrillas.

The distinction between areas held by the occupiers and the guerrillas is not valid, judging by what may be inferred from Xanana's reply on the relationship between the resistance fighters and the population: "The same blood runs in our veins, the same thoughts, the same desires, the same aspirations burn in our soul, the same concerns, the same hopes, the same faith, the same determination beats in our hearts, the same suffering, the same sacrifices and the same weaknesses rend our flesh: this is the relationship, if I may describe it in such terms, between the guerrillas and the people, and not only with the

people in areas where our military presence is felt, but also in those areas where only our political presence is felt!

International "Logic"

It is not the war or the armed struggle that will determine East Timor's future, Xanana admits. "FRETILIN was never deluded with hopeful fancies about the possibility of a military victory over the Indonesian occupation, but we think that it will also be difficult for them to continue fighting guerrillas." Bringing about a change in Jakarta's attitude is basic to the resistance, and the purpose of the armed struggle is to ensure maneuvering time between annihilation and hope. "Indonesia's strength lies precisely in the support that many countries are providing in order to maintain good relations with Jakarta," said Xanana.

Among these countries, he includes Europe and by way of example mentions the British defense of the Falkland Islands' right to self-determination, the Australian reaction to the French presence in New Caledonia and the international positions taken on Kampuchea and Afghanistan and their contradictory complacency about the violent annexation of East Timor. Xanana even worked in a moment of irony in his analysis of Australia's behavior, particularly mentioning Foreign Minister Bill Hayden: in his opinion, "if the Philippines provided the least assistance to Timor by extending their presence to our South Sea, Mr Hayden (Mr Bob Hawke would not agree)... would rush to Manila to offer total support to Marcos' regime from the Australian government in its violation of human rights in the Philippines." Prime Minister Bob Hawke is also severely criticized for his statement accepting the annexation: "It is a clear-cut demonstration of political cynicism, a hostile attitude toward the Maubere people, a veneration of the use of force, a policy of self-interest and complicity." The guerrilla leader said he was shocked at this policy "by the simple fact that East Timor had only been used as a springboard for Mr Hawke's rise to power. However, since March of 1985, Mr Hayden's main actions and subsequent statements have been too realistic for us to expect a more coherent attitude on the part of the Australian government about what is claimed to be its principles and independent foreign policy."

What exasperates Xanana is the logic that has prevailed over the international position on events in Timor: "What lies behind positions favoring Indonesia is the alleged instability factor which FRETILIN would bring to the area (in their opinion) and, as a concomitant feature, Soviet influence in the region. This is the bottom line of the issue, the basis for the rationale against the Maubere people. Both Indonesia and Australia have diplomatic relations with Moscow, and yet it is FRETILIN which poses a threat to the area--we shall see!"

Need for Portuguese Presence

Portuguese negotiations with Indonesia in the absence of the interested party (the representatives of the Timorese people) and indications that Lisbon would be content with an agreement on Indonesia's part to safeguard Portuguese culture in the occupied area are vehemently deplored by FRETILIN: "Rights of the people of East Timor go far beyond any concessions which Indonesia might grant."

In the first place, we are not interested in discussing these fanciful, rhetorical offers and in the second place, although historical links exist between Portugal and East Timor, I must say that the goal of our struggle is not limited to the preservation of Portuguese culture in East Timor, i.e., talking about this is betrayal of the sacrifices made by our people, who are struggling for their independence, and it shows disrespect to the sovereign desire of our people to live free and independent; it sells out our country and tramples on our heritage.

For Xanana, Portugal's role must be changed: "Portugal has a leading role in the solution of this issue because, assuming a Portuguese political presence in East Timor for an indefinite transitional period, the necessary basis will become obvious for guaranteeing mechanisms for the establishment of a pluralistic constitutional system in accordance with the interests of both the people of East Timor and the area as a whole--and Portugal would have met its responsibilities.

Economy vs. Principles

The people of East Timor: can one speak of such a people if Xanana says that one third of them has already been killed and if there is talk about the Javanization of the eastern part of the island? "Reports say that Dili is Javanized," the interviewee confirmed, "and that Indonesian convoys continue to arrive in East Timor, although the armed uprising of August 1983 has somewhat discouraged migration to certain farming areas."

Certain recent reports from international observers indicate some economic development in East Timor. Xanana gives us an example, a story about the International Red Cross: "At this moment, in many places in the interior, especially in the eastern and south-central regions, the malnourished and those with rickets would like to see IRC teams distribute food and those who are seriously ill would like to receive better medical treatment from the IRC." However, before denying the expressed purpose of economic development under Indonesia's administration, Xanana asked a question of principle, which perhaps expresses all his reasons for fighting: "We believe that Pretoria is also promoting greater 'development' in Namibia--but does this supersede the Namibian people's right to independence?"

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CSO: 3542/133

INDONESIA

BRIEFS

STEPPED-UP EXERCISE WITH MALAYSIA--The joint military exercise between Malaysia and Indonesia will be stepped up following the success of the 9th Mekar-Malindo operations which ended in Pulau Pinang Friday [8 Aug]. Indonesian Chief of Army Lieutenant General Tri Sutrisno said this exercise showed increasing cooperation and understanding between the armies of the two countries. Such cooperation and understanding had helped to meet the objective of upgrading the military standard of both countries, he added. [Text] [Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 9 Aug 86] /8309

NEW OIL FIELD INAUGURATED--President Suharto in Presidential Office, Jakarta 5 August symbolically inaugurated Kakap oil field in the Natuna Waters, Riau Province. An American oil company, Marathon Petroleum Limited, operates the Kakap oil field which is expected to have an average daily output of 17,000 barrels from six production wells. [Summary] [Jakarta International Service in English 0800 GMT 5 Aug 86 BK] /8309

CSO: 4200/1304

MALAYSIA

ILLEGAL INDONESIAN IMMIGRANTS SAID GROWING PROBLEM

Kuala Lumpur BUSINESS TIMES in English 15 Jul 86 p 3

[Text]

THE problem of illegal Indonesian immigrants in Malaysia has worsened and there are more than 1.5 million of them in the country at the moment.

Surveys by the Malaysian Trades Union Congress (MTUC) revealed that from this figure, 300,000 illegal immigrants have been located in Johore, 300,000 in Selangor and the Federal Territory, 200,000 in Pahang, 50,000 in Perak, 30,000 in Negeri Sembilan, 20,000 in Malacca, 10,000 in Kelantan and Terengganu and 500,000 more in Sabah and Sarawak.

MTUC president Encik Zainal Rampak said the number of illegal Indonesian immigrants has now reached a serious stage.

"They are braver now, moving freely around even without permit letters. This is because they are getting financial aid and moral support from certain groups in the country who are exploiting them," he said.

Encik Zainal said these immigrants were not afraid to meet up with the authorities because as punishment, they would only be deported back to Indonesia without any legal action taken against them.

He said these immigrants have scooped job opportunities available here, especially so as they were willing to offer cheap labour, working in estates, construction sites and as hawkers.

"They not only scoop job opportunities but also rob the locals, especially Bumiputera hawkers, of economic opportunities available here.

"This is because they are willing to accept the lowest pay given with job conditions that are inferior and not in accordance with the labour laws," he said.

He urged the Government to take strong actions to solve the problem because if not, the aims of the New Economic Policy (NEP) would not be realised and the stability of the nation threatened.

Encik Zainal said the problem of the Indonesian immigrants has worsened because more and more Indonesian estate workers have run away from the estates as they were unable to adapt to living conditions there.

He said among the number of Indonesian immigrants in the country, there were those who have been brought in to work in the estate as a result of the contract made between the Malaysian and Indonesian governments in 1984.

A spokesman of the Immigration Department said that since then, more than 700 Indonesian workers have been brought in to work in estates.

Encik Zainal felt that if they were not able to adapt to living conditions in the estates, they should be sent back to Indonesia and not be permitted to roam around in the country looking for other jobs.

Statistics from the Immigration Department showed that until now, more than 15,000 illegal Indonesian immigrants have been deported back to Indonesia.

Secretary of the Federal Territory Malay Hawkers and Petty Traders Association Encik Baharim Abdul Razak said more than 500 Indonesian immigrants were doing business illegally in the city, especially around the Chow Kit and Jalan Tuanku Abdul Rahman vicinities.

"They control about 80 per cent of the business activities there and more than 80 per cent of the business activities in the night markets (pasar malam) in the city," he said.

He added that before the immigrants came here, 80 per cent of the petty traders in those places comprised of Malays.

He believed that there were syndicates bringing in the Indonesians illegally, and helping them set up their business here.

Bernama

/12828

CSO: 4200/1306

NEW ZEALAND

ENVOY TO PARIS TO 'CLARIFY' VISIT TO DEPORTED AGENTS

HK020820 Hong Kong AFP in English 0750 GMT 2 Aug 86

[Text] Wellington, Aug 2 (AFP)--New Zealand Saturday asked its ambassador to France to clarify reports that a leading right-wing French National Assembly member had visited two deported French agents [at] Hao Atoll in the South Pacific.

Prime Minister David Lange said the New Zealand Embassy in Paris was "checking reports" that Alain Peyrefitte, who is also editorial chairman of the right-wing newspaper Le Figaro, had visited Hao Atoll and met Alain Mafart and Dominique Prieur.

Mafart and Prieur, sentenced to 10 years in jail in New Zealand for their part in the sinking of the Greenpeace Vessel Rainbow Warrior in Auckland Harbour last year, were deported by New Zealand to Hao last month as part of an agreement which settled the year-long Rainbow Warrior row.

Under the terms of the agreement drawn up by U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, Mafart and Prieur are barred from meeting with journalists or giving interviews during their three-year exile on Hao Atoll, a military staging post for the French nuclear test program at nearby Mururoa Atoll.

The New Zealand ambassador to France "will draw to the attention of the French authorities the terms of the secretary-general's ruling and will seek details of the reported visit," said Mr Lange.

"The French prime minister, Jacques Chirac, stated publicly only a short time ago that France would scrupulously observe the terms of the (U.N.) ruling," he added.

"That message was reiterated to me personally only last Wednesday by the departing French ambassador to New Zealand at his farewell call."

/12624

CSO: 4200/1299

PHILIPPINES

HITCHES DEVELOP IN PLANNED AQUINO-BALWEG TALKS

Balweg Scheduled To Meet Aquino

HK041223 Quezon City NEW DAY in English 4 Aug 86 p 2

[By Carmel M. Pizarro]

[Text] Rebel Priest Fr Conrad Balweg, leader of the Cordillera People's Liberation Army is scheduled to meet with President Corazon Aquino sometime this month. Francis Dangiwan, the postmaster of Sadanga, Mt. Province, and a close friend of Fr Balweg, told NEW DAY that the only detail to be ironed out is whether Mrs Aquino will go to Cordillera or Balweg will go to Malacanang instead.

Agapito "Butz" Aquino, the President's brother-in-law was scheduled to meet Balweg Thursday for another round of talks to discuss among other things the scheduled meeting with Mrs Aquino. Butz is the personal emissary of Mrs Aquino to Balweg, who split from the NPA last April to form his own Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA). This is actually their third meeting. The possibility of Fr Balweg emerging from his hiding place anytime is reinforced by a confirmation by Silvestre Afable, assistant to Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile, that a safe conduct pass had been issued to the rebel priest.

The CPLA is demanding a federal state for the Cordilleras, in contrast with the regional autonomy being sought by the Cordillera People's Alliance. The CPLA is also seeking government recognition as the constabulary or police force in the Cordilleras.

The CPLA's withdrawal from the New People's Army (NPA) has caused division not only in the underground movement but also among the Cordillera people to be sympathetic to the NPA. They are now either pro-CPLA or anti-CPLA.

In Sadanga, where CPLA established its base, people are pro-CPLA, anti-CPLA or simply indifferent. A Sadanga native who declined to be identified claimed that only three barrios are sympathetic to CPLA--Sadanga proper, Belwang, and Sacasacan. The other barrios like Saclit, Betwagan, Anabel and Bikigan are lukewarm if not anti-CPLA, he said.

But Dangiwan, postmaster of Sadanga and Balweg's close friend, said CPLA members are welcome in all barrios in the Cordillera. While it is not known how many NPA members joined the CPLA, pro-CPLA residents said they are many.

The split between CPLA and the NPA is reflected in the cause-oriented organizations in the Cordillera. The Cordillera People's Alliance (CPA), the largest umbrella organization of cause-oriented organizations in the Cordilleras, faces a withdrawal by the Cordillera Bodong Association (CBA), an association of peace pact holders.

The CBA, often jokingly referred to as Conrado Balweg's Army (CBA), is now espousing the same views as Balweg's. The CBA has adopted Balweg's demand for a federal Cordillera state which clashes with the CPA's regional autonomy program.

Although only a thin line divides "autonomists" from "federalists" proponents of each side take pains to differentiate the two views.

In fact, the CPLA, the CBA and the Banao Bodong Federation are meeting this week to finalize their demand for a Cordillera state, even though CPA is supposed to serve as the general spokesman for all Cordillera organizations.

Analysts said the split has hurt the NPA which scored impressive gains in the Cordillera during the Marcos regime.

NPA Discounts Influence

HK060257 Manila THE MANILA CHRONICLE in English 5 Aug 86 p 1

[By Paulynn P. Sicam]

[Text] Amid reports of an impending cease-fire agreement between the Armed Forces and the Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA), a responsible New People's Army officer asked, "Can Balweg really speak for the Cordilleras?"

The agreement, if reached, "could be futile and embarrassing for the Aquino Government," he warned. "Any agreement for a cease-fire between rebel priest Conrado Balweg and the government will not be binding for any area of the Cordillera," the NPA source, who operates in the Cordillera, told the CHRONICLE.

Balweg, he explained, does not have real control of any area in the region. "There are no areas that are solely CPLA areas," he said. "There are no barrios that are solely for them. They have not been able to expand to areas not yet occupied by the NPA."

Balweg, who heads the Cordillera People's Liberation Army, has met three times with Agapito "Butz" Aquino, brother-in-law and special emissary of the president to negotiate a cease-fire. Aquino reportedly has suggested 15 August for a meeting between President Aquino and Balweg in Baguio City.

Balweg broke away from the New People's Army last April. Press reports say he leads a 300-strong guerrilla force. The NPA operative, however, disputed the figure. When the rebel priest broke away from the NPA in April, the source said, he had some 200 fighters. At present, he has less than 50, he said. "The 300-strong guerrilla force referred to in a news report probably includes the armed barrio people sympathetic to Balweg's cause of federalism in the Cordilleras."

The CPLA reportedly operates only small portions of three provinces of the Cordillera region--Abra, Mountain Province and Kalinga. It has no presence in Benguet and Ifugao.

The NPA, the source explained, "supports the call of the Cordillera people for regional autonomy as part of their right to self-determination." Balweg, he said, is for federalism, which alleges that the Cordilleras are not an integral part of the Philippines.

Talks May Not Occur

HK070956 Hong Kong AFP in English 0933 GMT 7 Aug 86

[Text] Baguio, Philippines, 7 Aug (AFP)--Proposed talks between rebel priest Father Conrado Balweg and Philippine President Corazon Aquino tentatively set for 15 August may not take place because of conflicts in their schedules, informed sources said here Wednesday.

Sources from Fr Balweg's Cordillera People's Liberation Army (CPLA) said he would be travelling around the Cordillera Mountain Range next week.

Government sources said Mrs Aquino's military advisers frowned on the CPLA's suggestion that the head of state meet the rebels in their northern Philippine territory.

Agapito Aquino, Mrs Aquino's brother-in-law and her official emissary, proposed the dialogue when he met Fr Balweg near here last week. The priest had said the suggestion would have to be discussed with the CPLA majority.

The former Roman Catholic priest joined the communist New People's Army in 1979 but broke ranks last April and now leads some 300 CPLA guerrillas fighting for autonomy for Igorot tribesmen in the Cordilleras.

Meanwhile, the communist-led Cordillera People's Democratic Front has written to Mrs Aquino, warning her that her "government would be in error if it assumed that peace could be effected in the Cordilleras through negotiations with Conrado Balweg."

The communists' open letter, dated 24 July, said their group remained "the dominant revolutionary force in the region," and adding that "peace with Balweg will merely mean ceasefire between your government's armed forces and a group of only 40 men...who do not have full control over any single territory."

The Aquino government this week began ceasefire talks with the CPP-NPA in a bid to seek a political solution to their 17-year-old rebellion, now waged by some 16,500 NPA guerrillas.

/12858

CSO: 4200/1312

28 August 1986

PHILIPPINES

PIMENTEL DISCUSSES TOPIC FOR IMPENDING U.S. ADDRESS

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 10-16 Jun 86 pp 4, 5

[Article by Butch Fernandez: "Pimentel Dons a Diplomat's Robe"]

[Text]

Local Governments Minister Aquilino Pimentel has taken a break from his unpopular role as "headchopper" of the Aquino government and has donned a diplomatic robe to sway the moneymen of Wall Street into helping the Aquino government "lay its hands on solid money to back up its promises."

The most controversial minister has taken center stage in the influential Council of Foreign Relations in New York City today to put "in proper perspective" the US role in the post-Marcos Philippine scenario.

In giving WE-Forum a glimpse of his speech before the council where sit some of the chief shapers of American foreign policy, Pimentel said: "Definitely, I will speak about the need for the Aquino government to lay its hands on solid money."

"We can make all the promises in the world, but unless we have the money to back up the promises and translate these promises into solid achievements, these will remain hollow in the ears of the expectant people," he said.

In addition, Pimentel will also "talk about the fact that now the confidence of people in government has been restored, which, to my mind, is the greatest achievement of Mrs. Aquino."

"Where do we get money to implement the projects of Mrs. Aquino?" Pimentel is expected to ask of the council members.

The local governments minister expressed bright hopes that an audience with such a select group of American foreign policy shapers could swing the still-hedging

Reagan administration into granting "better terms" to the new Philippine government.

Mr. Reagan does not seem inclined at the moment to grant increased economic aid to the Philippines despite the US' avowed growing confidence in the Aquino government.

Reagan's fellow Republican at the US Senate, foreign relations committee member Richard Lugar, formally batted last week for an additional \$100-million in eco-aid to the Philippines on top of the \$150 million already promised by the American president.

"What we are talking about," Lugar said, "is a demonstration of 'dramatic' political support for a friendly government in time of urgent need."

A number of top US officials have also expressed dismay over Reagan's inability to keep his word.

They cited Mr. Reagan's earlier pledge of increased US aid to the Philippines conditioned on the conduct of free and fair presidential elections. But, they pointed out that after Reagan's "friend and ally," the deposed President Marcos, was toppled and replaced by President Aquino, the US president only offered an additional \$150-million in aid.

Perhaps to appease Reagan critics, US Secretary of State George Shultz shortly announced that the American government will encourage US businessmen and bankers to invest in the Philippines provided that "Filipino businessmen with assets abroad should also do the same."

Shultz, appearing before the Foreign Policy Association in New York City, acknowledged that the first signs of confidence of domestic investors is there. He added that "capital flight or the stashing of dollars in foreign investment havens appears to have ended."

Last week's development served to encourage Pimentel to appear before a group of "heavyweights" in foreign policy whom Mr. Reagan and his advisers cannot afford to ignore.

"This council is a rather influential group of people so, maybe, their voices can be of help to us," Pimentel said, adding that "you can name any bigwig in US foreign policy and he was once upon a time a member of this council."

He described the CFR as a foreign policy "think-tank" of the US government, although, he hastens to add, "it is private in nature." "It (council) is not connected with the American government," he said.

Pimentel ticked off the names of Zbigniew Brezinski, former US national security adviser, to former President Carter, American diplomat Henry Kissinger "and a lot of other people who became secretaries of state (who) have once upon a time been a member of this council."

"I think they are interested in eliciting the views of people, particularly those coming from the Third World," he said of the council's invitation for him to speak before them for the second time in as many years.

An "alumnus" of Mr. Marcos' political prison cells, Pimentel has taken what could be considered a hard-line position towards the "thorny issue" of the country's multi-billion dollar debts to foreign creditors. He believes that the conversion of some of our unpaid loans into grants is one way of easing the loan burden of this country.

"As a matter of fact, we can even propose to our creditors that instead of just condoning the (unpaid) loans, they (foreign creditor banks) can also insist that whatever it is we are supposed to pay to our creditors should be converted into

money that will be used for development in the Philippines," said Pimentel.

He explained that "instead of paying our creditors abroad a huge sum of money, if they will allow us to use this money for our own development, then they will also see that they have done something for our people."

Pimentel would not say directly if he will be presenting concrete proposals to the council to ease the country's debt burden. Basically, the idea is to seek better terms for our people," he said. How we will do that in the concrete will have to be studied very carefully."

Pimentel, however, had earlier advanced the view that he was in favor of the proposal on "selective payments of just debts." At one time, he even credited Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev as "an ally" of debt-ridden countries like the Philippines when he recalled reports quoting Gorbachev as saying "there is need for creditors and debtors of the world to come to some understanding on how foreign debts of borrowing countries should be paid."

Pimentel also pointed to the "Scandinavian experience" where the so-called welfare states agreed to convert a good deal of their loans to Third World countries into grants.

"Maybe, a portion of our loans could be converted into 'grants' so that we will not be deprived of much-needed capital for the country's development," he said. He did not, however, confirm if there were indeed Scandinavian loans to the Philippines which have been converted into grants under this sort of accommodation.

Pimentel said he has always maintained that "the debts incurred by Marcos which did not redound to the benefit of the Filipino people should be borne also by our creditors."

"It's unfair for them (creditors) to insist that the Filipino people will bear the cost of this loans if they are proven to have been misused by Marcos for his own benefit or for the benefit of his cronies," Pimentel declared.

PHILIPPINES

WE FORUM URGES AQUINO TO RESIST U.S. 'PRESSURE'

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 3-9 Jun 86 p 2

[Editorial: "Cory's Courage and U.S. Intentions"]

[Text]

It is inevitable that President Aquino will be called upon to show how strong a will she has as she passes her 100 days in office and certain basic problems in her young administration converge at a flashpoint. One of these weighty issues will concern the military and America's position on it: How to handle the insurgency.

The American ambassador has said the hardcore communists must be dealt with in the only way they understand and that is by gunning for them. Another signal from Washington was in a dispatch quoting unnamed Reagan administration officials as being worried over the "drift and disarray" in the Aquino government, the dispatch taking care to equate that with the possible role of known communists in the Constitutional Commission.

In what is suspiciously a cause-and-effect declaration was that made by Defense Minister Juan Ponce Enrile assuring the US of continued use of the bases as the Philippines' tuition to the cold war in the region. President Aquino had, earlier, shut the Con-Corn door to the communists. Although the President in Cebu repeated that she was "keeping my options open" on the bases, the pressure from the US is growing heavier.

The Marcos card is, of course, another of the pressures President Aquino must watch out for. It can be used by President Reagan as well as by our own military establishment. The loyalists' activities are getting more and more nettlesome and provoking brutal suppression. It is in how the military and police handle this that will test their loyalty.

President Aquino has shown courage in many ways. Her moral position is strong. The people are behind her. These are her strong cards. Will she stand up to US and our own military pressures and go to the root of all our troubles?

PHILIPPINES

REPORTAGE ON CONTINUING WORK OF CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION

Land Reform Approved

HK090256 Manila Far East Broadcasting Company in English 2300 GMT 8 Aug 86

[Text] The Constitutional Commission yesterday raised hopes of support to the country's millions of squatters when it mandated implementation of urban land reform and housing. The mandate is contained in sections 11 and 12 of the article on social justice which is still being fashioned out by the social committee chaired by Commissioner Maria Theresa Nieva.

Further on Land Reform

HK081556 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 8 Aug 86 pp 1, 13

[By Rod L. Villa Jr.]

[Excerpt] The agrarian reform provision that would grant a piece of land to every Filipino farmer was approved unanimously at the Constitutional Commission [Con-Com] last night.

The landmark provision had rent the Con-Com in acrimonious debates for five straight days, the longest so far by the charter framers on a single section of the proposed constitution.

Members with clashing concerns introduced at least 12 amendments to the provision before settling down for a vote. Finally, all 36 members present raised their hands in approval and Con-Com President Cecilia Munoz Palma, declaring the land reform provision "passed," banged the gavel, setting off applause by a huge gallery crowd.

Weary but satisfied, the 72-year-old retired justice described section five of the article on social justice as "possibly the most innovative provision that is bound to make the 1986 constitution different from the previous fundamental laws of the land."

The section, as approved, reads: "The state shall by law undertake an agrarian reform program founded on the right of farmers and regular farm workers who are landless to own directly or collectively the land they till

or, in the case of other farm workers, to receive a just share of the fruits thereof. To this end, the state shall encourage and undertake the just distribution of all lands, subject to such priorities and reasonable retention limits as Congress may prescribe, taking into account ecological, developmental, or equity consideration and subject to the payment of just compensation. The state shall respect the right of small landowners in determining retention limits. The state shall further provide incentives for voluntary land sharing."

Jaime Tadeo, head of the Con-Com Subcommittee on Agrarian Reform, said this would mean the end of the tenancy system that has saddled the nation for decades. He said this would mean the redistribution of some 14-million hectares of agricultural lands of which at least four million hectares are immediately arable.

Christian Monsod, who assisted in getting the section through the stormy debates, said the provision balances conflicting social, economic, and political forces.

Blas F. Ople said it would "lay the basis for a genuine social transformation that can lead to an enduring peace in the country."

Vicente Foz described the agrarian provision as "the farmers' counterpart of the constitutional guarantee of the right of workers of commercial and industrial firms to unionize, to security of their tenure, and to strike.

Groundwork Laid For Congressional Elections

HK080453 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 7 Aug 86 p 1, 8

[By Rod L. Villa Jr.]

[Excerpt] A committee of the Constitutional Commission [Con-Com] laid the groundwork yesterday for the holding of congressional elections early next year by establishing 200 legislative districts in 73 provinces and 13 urbanized cities.

Headed by Hilario Davide Jr., the committee divided the remaining 50 of the 250 seats National Assembly equally between sectoral and party-list representatives. The committee allotted five seats for Manila and 10 for Rizal province on the basis of a decision to abolish the Metro Manila Commission [MMC].

Davide said the committee relied mainly on a modified plan submitted by the Commission on Elections. Under the plan, each of the country's 73 provinces and 13 urbanized cities would automatically have one seat in the assembly. The balance of the 114 seats are allotted on the basis of one for a population of 400,000 in the case of the provinces, and one for 200,000 in cities.

Chairman Jose Nollado of the Committee on Local Autonomy said his group approved an article that assumes the dismantling of the MMC.

The towns of Navotas, Malabon, San Juan, Mandaluyong, Pasig, Makati, Tagig, Marikina, Las Pinas, Paranaque, Pateros, and Muntinlupa would be reverted to Rizal province while Valenzuela would be returned to Bulacan. Davide said that under the plan, Rizal with a population of 3.2 million gets 10 seats in Congress. Cebu province would have eight; Negros Occidental, seven; Pangasinan and Bulacan, five each; and Davao, three.

Meanwhile, the article on social justice came under heavy attack on its form and substance on the fourth day of plenary debates. This prompted military groups to air a warning against its being watered down.

Members of the committee headed by Ma Theresa Nieva made a valiant effort to protect what she called the article's "lofty objectives."

Opponents of the article belonging to the so-called conservative bloc centered their criticism on a section embodying radical agrarian and labor reforms. Elder legislators and legal academicians in the Con-Com sought to strip the article of what they called its "florid verbiage."

The committee, accepting a flurry of amendments, reported out yesterday morning a substitute article that merged redundant sections and cut out excess words. This prompted militant groups, including the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan), to call on the commissioners to resist efforts to change the article. Bayan said that it saw through these maneuvers by elitist interest to water down the letter and intent of the social justice article.

The article provides, among others, for the redistribution of all urban and rural lands to poor farmers, workers, and deprived city dwellers, and legitimizes the rights of workers in government and the private sector to unionize and strike. The body had earlier stamped final approval on second reading on the articles on the legislative and executive branches, both designed to clip vast powers and prevent a president from becoming a dictator.

199 Congressional Districts Proposed

HK070457 Quezon City DZFM Radio in English 0400 GMT 7 Aug 86

[Text] At the Con-Com [Constitutional Commission], the Commission on Elections [COMELEC] has proposed the apportionment of the country's 13 regions into 199 congressional districts. COMELEC said the proposal to the charter body was approved on second reading. The article on the legislature would restore the bicameral legislature abolished when martial law was declared in 1972.

Under the article on the legislature, 200 out of the 250 members of Congress will be elected by districts, while the remaining 500 seats would come from representatives of the various sectors or political groups. Twenty-four members of the senate would be elected (at large).

Recommendation Ready To Abolish Metro Manila Commission

HK061555 Manila THE NEW PHILIPPINES DAILY EXPRESS in English 6 Aug 86 pp 1, 7

[By Miguel Genovea]

[Text] The committee on local government of the Constitutional Commission is set on recommending the abolition of the Metro Manila Commission [MMC].

Commissioner Jose Nollado, chairman of the committee, said that his group has rejected the proposal of the University of the Philippines constitutional group to create a Metro Manila government.

This developed as heated debate on the proposed social justice article continued yesterday with the members proposing a number of mandatory provisions, including a suggestion by Con-Com Vice President Ambrosio Padilla to delete a section prohibiting the eviction and demolition of dwellings of urban poor residents.

Nollado, who will start sponsoring on the floor an eight-section article on local government next week, said the continued existence of the MMC created under PD 824 "will have no legal basis" after the approval of the new Constitution.

"Since the formation of a Metro Manila government is not contemplated in the new Constitution, it is the moral obligation of the political leadership to abolish the MMC should the charter gain approval in a plebiscite," Nollado said.

Nollado said the sentiment of the members of his committee is for the dismantling of the MMC. He added he will take the floor during his sponsorship of the article on local government to articulate the committee's sentiments on the status of MMC. He said that the section in the 1973 Constitution which is retained by his committee calling for local government units to group themselves, consolidate and coordinate efforts, services and resources for purposes commonly beneficial to them "does not contemplate the creation of a super government."

The committee on the legislative headed by Hilario Davide Jr. will meet today to take up a proposal of the Commission on Elections to create 199 districts in the coming congressional election.

Nollado said that the proposal which will guarantee at least one representative for each province and one for every 200,000 residents of cities is more or less acceptable to members of his committee.

In an effort to stop favorable action on the section on land reform, Padilla argued that its mandatory redistributive thrust is illegal and unconstitutional because it overthrows the entire legal system based on property right.

Demonetizing Marcos-Issued Currency Proposed

HK081548 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 8 Aug 86 p 2

[Text] A committee of the Constitutional Commission proposed yesterday that the government demonetize all currencies issued by the deposed Marcos regime to flush out all ill-gotten wealth.

The committee on amendments and transitory provisions chaired by Commissioner Jose Suarez referred the proposal to the Monetary Board, the Central Bank's policy-making body, for comments. The proposal is intended to become a part of the transitory provisions of the new Constitution.

It provides that the state demonetize all currencies issued under the previous regime in order to flush out all hidden wealth and to ensure the expedient rechanneling of funds necessary for the implementation of the national economic program.

The authors, Crispino de Castro and Suarez, said that the sudden change of government brought about by the military-civilian February revolt has opened a Pandora's box of ill-gotten wealth cases. They said that these monies were fraudulently acquired from the public treasury and should therefore be returned to the Filipino people who truly own them.

One of the effective ways of flushing out all the ill-gotten wealth still concealed in their hiding places is to demonetize all currencies issued by the Marcos regime, Suarez and de Castro said.

Right to Strike Acknowledged

HK070353 Laoag City Nation Broadcasting Corporation Radio DWRI in Ilocano 2300 GMT 6 Aug 86

[Text] The right to strike has been acknowledged in the new Constitution. It is included in the provision on social justice. Yesterday afternoon the amending of the said article began. According to this, the Congress was advised to give priority to laws which safeguard the welfare of every citizen, and Section 3 of the article on social justice acknowledges the right to strike as institutionalized in one of the laws.

Deadline For Constitution Draft Extended

HK061543 Manila THE NEWS HERALD in English 6 Aug 86 pp 1, 6

[By Teddy Owen]

[Text] The Constitutional Commission [Con-Com] yesterday tentatively rescheduled its deadline for submission of the draft of the new Constitution between 12 September and 15 September.

Member Jose Bengzon Jr., chairman of the steering committee, said the 12 September deadline was set back because of delays resulting from long deliberations on the legislative and the executive articles. The Con-Com is now one week behind its timetable.

Both executive and legislative articles are yet to be approved on second reading because of several critical issues.

Bengzon and member Christian Monsod also said further delays could be expected in the plenary deliberation on the article on social justice, which is now on its fourth day of discussion.

Another issue expected to create delay will be the Philippine-United States military bases agreement found in the article on general provisions.

The delay in the original 2 September deadline prompted Con-Com president Cecilia Munoz Palma to call an emergency caucus yesterday. She appealed to the members to finish their work as early as possible, preferably before President Aquino leaves for the U.S. on a state visit next 15 September.

Bengzon said he was hopeful the new charter would be in President Aquino's hand a day or two earlier before her scheduled departure for the U.S.

In his eagerness to win support for the reform program of the cause-oriented group, member Wilfrido Villacorta warned that failure to approve a sensible land and agrarian reform program in the new constitution would lead to a revolution.

This prompted member Ambrosio Padilla to rise and warn Villacorta that he (Villacorta) could not intimidate the Con-Com members by his words. Padilla said the Villacorta warning was merely intended to stampede the Con-Com into approving the article on social justice without even allowing the members to evaluate and propose amendments to radical provisions.

As the Con-Com began considering amendments to the article on social justice yesterday morning, it adopted a new approach to the explosive resolution. Amendments would be submitted to the committee headed by member Teresa Nieva on the basis of amendments to one section at a time. The article on social justice has 20 sections.

All written amendments were considered and evaluated by the committee members last night after which the committee will report back to the plenary session its findings and recommendations this morning. If the proponents of the amendments are not satisfied with these findings and recommendations, they can ask for floor discussion and final voting.

Bengzon said the system has been devised to avert long drawn-out discussions which could become personal and even recriminatory.

Already, members Ambrosio Padilla, Florenz Regalado, Crispino de Castro and Bernardo Villegas came out openly against the all encompassing sections which would make mandatory the takeover by the state of agricultural and public lands for distribution among the landless and the tillers of the soil.

Padilla said he would not submit amendments for the present. He was of the opinion that the mandate to expropriate private property for distribution to "deserving farmers under compulsory private land expropriation is illegal and unconstitutional."

De Castro reiterated his earlier stand that the article on social justice was "socialist at best and communistic at worst." He said there was need for a major overhaul of the article.

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CSO: 4200/1312

PHILIPPINES

WEEKLY PROFILES EX-KBL APPOINTEE TO CONCOM

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 24-30 Jun 86 p 9

[Profile by Tinna B. Mauricio of Teodulo Natividad, former KBL Assemblyman:
"Teodulo Natividad on Marcos: 'I Did Not Really Believe in Him'"]

[Text]

For a guy in the forefront of that infamous Saturday Night Massacre, it was a radical back-down, almost as if Dirty Harry suddenly said, "Gee, did I soil your clothes?" instead of "Make my day" while making an arrest.

"I supported Marcos only because he was the candidate of our party, the KBL. I didn't really believe in him, it was more of a political obligation I felt I had to perform," said former Napolcom Chairman, Assemblyman and ex-Marcos supporter Teodulo Natividad who has since defected to the side of the Aquino government by accepting one of the five seats offered to the political opposition in the 48-man Constitutional Commission.

Natividad, however, feels that his acceptance of the Con-Com post should not be taken to mean that he is "cooperating" with the Aquino government. He is loathe to describe his commissionership as "an act of political collaboration with the Aquino government" and like many of his fellow commissioners, would like to believe he is in the Con-Com for the people and for the country.

A rabid Marcos supporter during the snap election campaign and

aftermath, Natividad was widely criticized by the press and Aquino supporters when he appeared on Channel 4's election program, Panawagan '86 with other Marcos loyalists such as former ambassador to London J.V. Cruz who willingly resigned his post and came home just to campaign for the ex-president.

On that episode of Panawagan '86, Natividad, Cruz and the other Marcos defenders on the panel lost their manners and zapped Joe Concepcion, then head of the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel). They accused Namfrel of being CIA-funded and of exaggerating cases of vote-buying and terrorism during the elections to arouse public sympathy for candidate Cory Aquino. Using both his bulk and booming voice, Natividad argued that Namfrel could not prove any of the things they were accusing Marcos of because they had no evidence.

"That was true at the time, so I defended that position. I really didn't know that there was anything fishy going on. I feel that Marcos betrayed my trust by not letting me and the other KBL members know about what was really happening," Natividad says.

Which was why Natividad, along with Ople and some other ex-KBL partymen, decided to cut off their ties with the deposed dictator when they learned that he had upped and fled to Hawaii.

Even so, Marcos did not easily give up. He tried to get in touch with the rebel KBL members by overseas telephone. But each time he called Natividad at his Malolos, Bulacan home, the former MP was unavailable. In a similar call to Blas Ople, Marcos supposedly tried to persuade Natividad, Ople, Maambong and De los Reyes not to accept the Con-Com appointments. But the four ignored his advice.

Today, Natividad "appreciates" his appointment to the Con-Com. "President Aquino displayed the highest form of statesmanship by appointing us to the Con-Com," he says, an act which Marcos would not have done. When the Batasang Pambansa was still in force, opposition members had to fight tooth and nail for their seats.

As a KBL member in the 1984 Batasan, Natividad was a member of the majority party. Now the shoe is on the other foot and he, along with the other PNP members, belong to the minority group. There are only four of them in the charter-drafting body.

He acknowledges that the career of a politician, like that of a movie star, does not last very long. "Sometimes you're on the top, at other times you're at the bottom. I can't be on the top all the time, so I'll just have to do my best this time," he explains.

His acceptance of the appointment to the Con-Com has earned him criticism not only from the former president but also from his colleagues in the opposition who claim that Cory Aquino is acting like a dictator, even worse than Marcos. Natividad disagrees. How can she be acting like one, he says, when she was generous enough to consider appointing members of the opposition to the Constitutional Commission? Ay, "balimbing!" The critics might holler. But before that label gets stuck on his name, Natividad says that out of gratitude to President Aquino, he and his colleagues are doing their best to prove that they deserve the honor given to them.

Natividad seems to have learned well the lessons taught him by the Marcos regime. Among the resolutions that the opposition has filed in the Con-Com is one advocating the right of the people to revolt against tyranny (sounds familiar?) and another one discouraging nepotism in the government.

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CSO: 4200/1315

PHILIPPINES

EDITORIAL POSES SOLUTION TO OIC ISSUE

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 28 Jun 86 p 4

[Editorial: "What People Should Be Told"]

[Text]

After the February revolution, the Filipinos realized that their deposed president, Ferdinand E. Marcos, had not been honest with them; that he had manipulated the laws through his decree power for his benefit, for that of his family and relatives; and for that of his cronies.

With the change of regime, the people expected a change. In fact, they voted for the Aquino-Laurel team during the snap presidential election because they wanted a change. There was a change. But was it what they had expected?

On the local government level, the people have much reason to be disappointed. They expected mass changes in elective positions. But did they expected the changes to result into a lot of mess and demoralization?

The people were all for changing the inefficient, the corrupt, the incompetent, the undesirable, etc. But were all the local officials changed having such notorious qualities?

The people expected many be-

longing to the Kilusang Bagong Lipunan to be changed. But they must have expected those who have served their people well to be reconciled with the Aquino administration. And they must have expected that whoever would be appointed to replace the KBL elective officials should be better than the KBL holdovers.

The people must not have expected non-KBL elective officials to be changed unless they were really inefficient, corrupt, incompetent, undesirable, etc. The people knew that these non-KBL elective officials had fought Marcos and the KBL long before the Aquino group did. Most of them, if not all, had contributed to the electoral triumph of Cory Aquino and Doy Laurel.

But the people know that without any thorough screening of the performance of hold-over incumbents and of the potentials of the aspirants for the offices of the incumbents, changes were made.

What the people did not know were the criteria in making the

change.

What many suspect — and it can be the fact — a local official does not have to be a KBL to be changed. As long as he or she has served under Marcos, this official should be changed. Even civil service and career officials got strong hints that it was a sin to have served under Marcos; they did not deserve the confidence of the Aquino government.

In the true spirit of rational reconciliation, the people must be reconciled with all the replacements of the local officials who had served under the Marcos regime irrespective of their political affiliation. May the people be told in specific details what the criteria were in making the changes?

By these criteria, the people can make their own judgment — a judgment in support or in silent rejection of the changes.

The people detest the Marcos regime for having been dishonest with them; they expect the Aquino government to be different, to be

better.

/9274

CSO: 4200/1315

PHILIPPINES

REPORTAGE ON DEBT MANAGEMENT SITUATION, MEASURES

Debt to Equity Program

HK061537 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 6 Aug 86 p 2

[Text] The Central Bank [CB] yesterday issued Circular No 1111 which implements President Aquino's Executive Order No 32, dated 24 July, directing the CB to establish a program allowing the conversion of the Philippine's external debts into equity investments in local enterprises.

The program is designed to achieve the following:

- To stimulate longterm equity investments in Philippine enterprises by both foreign investors and Filipinos;
- To encourage the repatriation to the country of foreign currency holdings of Philippine residents held abroad for the purpose of capitalizing equity investments in the country;
- To provide additional incentives for investments in designated sectors of the Philippine economy that require prompt revitalization; and
- To reduce the external debt of the Philippines.

Under the circular, the categories of Philippine external debts qualified under the program are:

- All principal maturities of external debt covered by a restructuring agreement;
- All principal maturities of external debt owed by Philippine public sector borrowers falling due on or after 1 January 1987 (other than debts covered by a restructuring agreement or the new money agreement) and all principal maturities of external debt owed by Philippine private sector borrowers;
- Credits (including deposits maintained with the CB) covered by the trade facility;
- Other debt obligations on such terms subject to conditions that may be approved by the Monetary Board.

Peso proceeds of convertible debts redeemed in connection with a conversion transaction may be invested in an area of economic activity spelled out under the circular.

The following areas are qualified under the program:

- The export-oriented sector including the production, manufacture or processing of export products from the Philippines subject to the definition of an export-oriented firm as determined by the CB.
- The rendering of technical, professional or other services outside of the Philippines which are paid for in foreign currency.
- The production of agricultural goods and the provision of related services, regardless of whether the agricultural product is intended for export from the Philippines.
- The provision of health care services in the Philippines or the construction of health care facilities in the Philippines.
- The construction or maintenance of low- and middle-income housing projects in the Philippines.
- The construction or maintenance of educational facilities in the Philippines.
- Other investments as may be considered preferred by the Monetary Board or as covered under the Investment Priorities Plan in consultation with the Board of Investments (BOI).

The CB said the program will be administered in a "flexible manner" in order to achieve its goals. This means the circular containing the guidelines for the program's implementation may be revised and updated from time to time.

The CB will charge a fee equal to 5 percent of the total amount of the peso proceeds received by the investor as a result of the redemption of the convertible debt involved in the transaction for investments made in one of the preferred areas.

For investments falling outside of the seven areas covered, the CB will charge a fee equal to 10 percent of the total amount of the peso proceeds received by the investor. In addition, the investor will be required to put in fresh capital equivalent to 10 percent of the total investment from pesos to be purchased from the CB or a Philippine commercial bank at prevailing exchange rates.

Ease in Foreign Debt Burden Sought

BK051711 Hong Kong AFP in English 1653 GMT 5 Aug 86

[Text] Manila, 5 Aug (AFP)--The Philippine Government Tuesday launched a program to ease its debt burden through the conversion of foreign debts into equity investments in local enterprises. The program is designed to ease Manila's \$27 billion foreign debt and encourage local and foreign investors to make long-term equity investments in the Philippines, the Central Bank (CB) said in a statement outlining the plan. The plan was announced last month by President Corazon Aquino, who came to power following a popular uprising in February and who inherited a ravaged economy from deposed strongman Ferdinand Marcos.

Debts may be redeemed in Philippine pesos which may then be invested in certain local enterprises set by the CB. The offer covers principals of external debt covered by a restructuring agreement, certain principal maturities owed by the public and private sector and credits covered by the trade facility. The CB is encouraging foreign equity holdings in companies involved in the manufacture of Philippine export products, agricultural production, health care, housing projects, and educational facilities.

ADB Notes Improvement of Debt Situation

HK061539 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 6 Aug 86 p 2

[Text] The external debt situation of the Philippines and other Asian developing countries generally improved in 1983-84.

A study conducted by I.P. David and Jungsoo Lee, Asian Development Bank (ADB) statistics unit head and senior economist, respectively, indicated that the increase in the total outstanding external debt (nominal) of the Philippines and 14 other Asian developing countries decelerated from 11 percent per annum in 1980-82 to 8 percent in 1983 and to 5 percent in 1984.

The report said the deceleration in the rate of increase of the external debts of Asian developing countries, including the Philippines, was significant in 1984, increasing by only 4.1 percent compared with 12 percent in 1983.

The deceleration, according to the ADB study, was caused by the following factors; the improvement in external current account balances of developing countries, the sharp fall in world inflation and the sustained appreciation of the U.S. dollar.

However, based on the report, the Philippines still ranks fourth in the list of the most heavily indebted Asian developing countries in absolute terms as of end-1984, with an external debt of \$23.8 billion.

Heading the list is the Republic of Korea with \$46 billion, followed by Indonesia, \$33.2 billion, and India, \$30.5 billion.

It was also noted that although the Philippines' total external debt has been stable since 1983, debt servicing difficulties will continue since, as a consequence of its unilateral declaration of a moratorium on debt service payments, it could not increase its borrowings, especially from international banks.

Various indicators also showed that the Philippines' external debt situation is not at all comfortable as the country will continue to be saddled with a high debt service ratio (approximately 40 percent) and a high interest to export ratio (25 percent) in the short to medium terms.

New Debt Rescheduling

HK071547 Manila MANILA BULLETIN in English 7 Aug 86 p 13

[Text] The Philippines will commence in October a new round of negotiations with Paris Club creditors for rescheduling of official debts which are falling due next year, and possibly during the period up to 1990.

Sources told BUSINESS BULLETIN the talks with the Paris Club would follow similar negotiations with the commercial banks scheduled in September. The Paris Club is composed of 15 developed countries which extend soft loans comprising Official Development Assistance (ODA) to developing countries, including the Philippines.

It was not immediately known how much of the official debts were falling due between 1987 and 1990 although total official credits were estimated at close to \$10 billion out of the country's foreign debt of \$26 billion. The official debt covers loans contracted from Paris Club members as well as multilateral sources such as the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank.

The negotiations with the Paris Club are expected to be much easier than the discussions initiated by the previous considering the tremendous support extended by foreign governments to the administration of President Aquino. [as published]

Even before negotiations have actually started, ODA commitments by the Paris Club group already reached about 70 percent of the target of slightly over \$1 billion this year.

Last year, the Philippine government was able to arrange for rescheduling of about \$1 billion of official loans falling due between 1 January 1985 and 30 June 1986. In addition, it was able to seek further rescheduling of 60 percent of interest due during the period.

Under the terms of the agreement with the Paris Club, the debts were rescheduled over 10 years, inclusive of a grace period of five years. Repayments were to be made in 10 semi-annual payments, with the first payments due on 15 March 1991 and last payment due on 15 September 1995. The bulk of the country's official debts is accounted for by loans extended by Japan and the United States.

Aside from Japan and the U.S., official creditors include Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, West German, Italy, Netherlands, Spain, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom.

Repayments to Top \$2 Billion For 3 Years

HK080359 Quezon City BUSINESS DAY in English 7 Aug 86 p 3

[By Daniel C. Yu]

[Text] The country's interest payment on its external debt this year will go over the \$2-billion mark, accounting for half of the total projected export earnings of the country for 1986.

This was the level of interest payment projected by the government and submitted to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) during the recently concluded talks for a new standby credit agreement.

Based on a profile of the country's interest payments worked out by the Central Bank and made available to BUSINESS DAY total interest payment for 1986 will reach \$2,281 million or half of the \$4,600-million export earnings estimated for this year.

Interest payment for 1987 will reach \$2,029 million, while for 1988, it will go up to \$2,006 million. For three consecutive years, starting this year, interest payments will go over the \$2-billion mark annually.

It is the substantial interest payments expected for the next couple of years which prompted the government to step up its export program in order to generate enough foreign exchange receipts.

If 50 percent of export earnings will go to service interest, some monetary officials believe it would be counterproductive to continue payment since it will mean leaving only a small share of the country's foreign exchange earnings for the import requirements of industry.

A substantial portion of the total interest payment for this year--about \$430 million--will be paid to banks and other financial institutions. Multilateral financial institutions will account for \$480 million; suppliers credit, \$103 million; and bilateral credit, \$74 million.

Other payments to be made are for medium- and long-term credits from commercial banks, worth about \$40 million, and short-term non-trade credits from commercial banks valued at \$75 million. Interest on trade credits is placed at \$233 million.

Under its letter of intent submitted to the IMF, the Philippines is requesting for between 400 million Special Drawing Rights [SDR] to 450 million SDR's (\$480 million to \$540 million) for the standby credit agreement.

Part of the total credit request, or 220 million SDR's (\$264 million), will be drawn from the Fund's Compensatory Financing Facility (CFF). Drawings from the CFF are intended to assist a member-country during period of temporary shortfalls in its export receipts.

The thinking of monetary authorities is that the outlook for commodities as well as for nontraditional exports this year is bleak which explains why only a conservative export level has been projected for this year.

As a percentage of current receipts, interest payment this year is substantially larger than last year. In 1985, interest payments took up nearly 27 percent of current receipts.

With the conclusion of the government's talks with the IMF staff mission last week, the country is now awaiting the response of the Fund to its letter of intent. Action by the Fund's executive board will likely come only after four to six weeks.

A favorable response from the IMF is important since it will trigger the opening of rescheduling talks with the country's 483 creditor-banks covering external debt maturities from 1987 to 1991 estimated at between \$6 billion to \$9 billion.

Likely to be included in the talks is the question of interest payments which some government officials would like reduced in order to allow the economy to grow during the period.

There has been talk of limiting interest payments to a certain percentage of export receipts. This move, however, is frowned upon by the bigger banks with exposures in the country.

Included in talks with the commercial banks also is the estimated \$1.8-billion amortization of medium- and long-term debts for next year in 1988. This year, medium- and long-term debt amortization is about \$0.7 billion.

Some monetary officials believe that talks with commercial banks for the rescheduling of the country's commercial debt would probably be more difficult than the negotiations with the IMF.

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CSO: 4200/1312

PHILIPPINES

PROVINCIAL WEEKLY: SUCCESS 'UNLIKELY' FOR LOYALIST GUERRILLAS

Dipolog City THE MINDANAO OBSERVER in English 16 Jun 86 p 4

[News Analysis by Eriberto A. Taban-ud, Jr: "Prospects for Loyalist Guerillas"]

[Text]

Future developments on Loyalist guerrilla capability directly affects the peace under the New Government. To foresee their trends, an application of the basic elements of guerrilla warfare is helpful.

People's support — The extent of popular involvement will be limited to the regions where the former First Couple came from. In other regions, the Loyalist guerrillas will have to persistently use "terrorist tactics" to control the rural folks.

Funding — The Presidential Commission on Good Government's sequestrations greatly affect Loyalist sources of funds. In addition, the Marcos cronies' funding is good only for a short time. Once these sources will be used up, the Loyalist guerrillas will have to resort to counterpro-

ductive nefarious activities.

Communists link up—This is the most impossible thing to happen. If the Communists even hesitate to cooperate with the Aquino government, how much more with Loyalists regarded as a "greater evil"?

U.S. support — The U.S. (through the CIA.) may secretly use them as a reserve pressure group. This follows the U.S. Nicaraguan scheme on the "Contra" rebels. It is a Damoclean sword over the New Government so that the latter may not make a "wrong move."

So, presently, it is unlikely that the loyalists guerrillas can topple the Aquino government. The most destabilizing effect they can produce will be merely a regional revolt. But this trend will become different, if the New Government will make a "wrong move."

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CSO: 4200/1315

PHILIPPINES

POLITICAL AFFAIRS MINISTER ADDRESSES LABOR ISSUE IN CEBU

Charges KMU 'Communist Leaning'

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 13 Jul 86 p 17

[Text] Political Affairs Minister Antonio V. Cuenco blamed yesterday the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) as behind the labor unrest rocking metropolitan Cebu and the rest of the country.

In a talk with local newsmen at Camp Sergio Osmeña Sr., the political affairs minister pointed to the labor organization and its satellites as responsible for the current disturbances.

Cuenco accused the KMU as a communist leaning labor organization which is agitating the workers to go on strike.

"Strikes are bad for business and the pattern of communist infiltration is very obvious," he said.

The political affairs minister said demands presented by the strikers are no longer economic but political.

TROUBLE

"Instead of presenting to management their legitimate economic demands, they are asking for the removal of the US bases in the country,"

Cuenco said.

We are trying to effect an economic recovery program, he said, but there comes the KMU creating or fomenting trouble within the labor ranks.

The political affairs minister added, the government is appealing for a moratorium on these strikes especially the "wild-cat" strikes because they are illegal.

Asked to comment on Labor Minister Augusto Sanchez pro-KMU or pro-labor stance, Cuenco said it is his personal look out since Sanchez claimed having severed his relationships with the labor union.

More than 30 firms in Metro Cebu have been hit by labor strikes conducted by affiliate labor organizations of the KMU.

LSE III

Denies KMU Charge

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 14 Jul 86 pp 1, 2

[Text] Political Affairs Minister Antonio V. Cuenco last night denied having accused the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) as a communist organization.

Cuenco visited the editorial office of Sun*Star Daily to make the clarification and to avoid being misunderstood.

"What I was trying to convey was that militant labor organization KMU was infiltrated by communist elements," he said.

The political affairs minister added something should be done about this infiltration of a legitimate labor group.

PURGE

"I am asking them to purge their ranks of these infiltrators before the situation worsens," Cuenco said.

Cuenco in a talk with some local newsmen at Camp Sergio Osmena Sr. Saturday morning blamed the current labor unrest on the communist infiltrators in the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) and its satellite organizations.

He said the economic demands were being drowned out by the political issues which labor presented to management instead of their legitimate grievances.

According to Cuenco, he does not seek to quarrel with KMU leaders and only wants them to weed the bad elements who have discredited their organization. - LSE III

Clarifies Charge

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 14 Jul 86 pp 1, 2

[Text]

Political Affairs Minister Antonio V. Cuenco was chided yesterday by a union lawyer for being "ignorant in labor matters" following Cuenco's remarks to newsmen that the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) was Communist-influenced and the cause of strikes in Cebu and other parts of the country.

The rebuke came from Southern Philippines Federation of Labor-Kilusang Mayo Uno (SPFL-KMU) lawyer Henrick F. Gingoyon in a press release.

"For Cuenco to ascribe to KMU the labor unrest in Cebu is not only puerile (childish) but also recklessly irresponsible," said Gingoyon.

The lawyer said a close look at the demands of workers in strike-bound firms in Cebu will show that gross violations of labor standards and the right to organize are the causes of labor unrest.

Cuenco had criticized KMU unions of pressing demands that are no longer economic but political. He cited the removal of U.S. bases as an example.

DIFFERENT

Gingoyon said one will fail to see a placard in a picketline lobbying a national issue like the removal of U.S. bases.

He added, however, it is a different case when militant workers march in street rallies with other sectors.

"One will invariably hear a worker agitating at the top

of his voice for the immediate dismantling of the U.S. bases" because of the relevance of the issue, he explained.

Gingoyon described the minister as a "capitalist" who has never been with the labor movement and whose family has strategic business interests in Cebu.

He also likened Cuenco to "discredited unions" and ex-President Marcos in the minister's alarm over Communist infiltration in the labor ranks.

"Being bankrupt of valid issues against KMU, these discredited unions, so much like the exiled dictator and Minister Cuenco, are looking through a red-tinted glass and constantly play the communist bogey against KMU."

... EGM

PHILIPPINES

REPORTAGE ON GROWTH, ACTIVITIES OF NPA IN CEBU, DANAOG

Durano, Bayan Leader, Others on Hit List

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 12 Jul 86 pp 1, 2

[Text]

The underground movement has marked former Congressman Ramon Durano Sr. for assassination along with 15 ranking military officers in Central Visayas and a Bayan leader.

This was disclosed yesterday by a suspected member of the Sparrow unit of the New People's Army (NPA) who was captured Tuesday by the military.

His disclosures during a preliminary tactical interrogation led to a series of raids resulting in the apprehension of 13 other rebel suspects.

He said others in the death list of the sparrow unit were: Col. Romulo L. Querubin, RUC 7 commander; Col. Edgardo M. Abenina, Recom 7 chief; Lt. Col. Manel Cabigon, U-3 Major Renato Mojado; Capt. Inocencio G. Sanchez, Recom 7 spokesman; and several others.

The suspect also said a Bayan leader in a southern town of Cebu was to be executed by the Sparrow unit.

WARLORD

According to the suspect, Durano, former political kingpin of Cebu, was to be liquidated as soon as possible under a plan known as "operation warlord."

He said a five-man hit squad was formed and sent to Danao city a few days ago to perform this task.

The suspected rebel said the five-man squad was selected for the mission by the north district committee of the Communist Party of the Philippines in Cebu.

OPPRESSOR

Durano was regarded by the underground movement as an "oppressor" and staunch supporter of deposed President Marcos who had enslaved the people, the suspected rebel said.

The Bayan leader was called as hardheaded and a hindrance to the overall goals in the movement.

Leaders of the underground movement, he said, were intending to blame his death on the military to alienate them from the people.

Military authorities were conducting follow-up operations based on the confessions of some of the captured suspects. LSE III

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 13 Jul 86 pp 1, 2

[Text]

The Communist-led New People's Army (NPA) has been expanding and gaining strength in Metro Cebu, Col. Romulo L. Querubin, RUC 7/560th Airwing commander said yesterday.

In a talk with newsmen at Camp Sergio Osmeña Sr. in this city, he said the NPAs are not only recruiting and training liquidation squads, but are aggressively expanding their cells.

According to Querubin, the communist underground movement divided the urban party committee into three operational districts for Metro Cebu.

He tagged Mandaue city as the base of their north district, Talisay town for the south and Guadalupe in Cebu city for their central district operations.

Querubin said the underground movement met in Mandaue city just before raiding the Tangke PC detachment.

SUCCESS

"The local underground movement is not engaged in rural insurgency but is now concentrating in urban insurgency as proven by their activities which are confined at the urban areas of Metro Cebu," Querubin said.

He attributed the success of the underground movement to the government policy of reconciliation making tactical operations difficult.

He said insurgency did not thrive well in the countryside because they were checked by the presence of the military.

During the same talk, Querubin denied the presence of soldiers in the hinterlands of Asturias town which made some mountain folks evacuate.

In the region, he said, Negros Oriental is the most insurgency affected province followed by Bohol and Cebu province.

I.S.E.I.I.I.

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 13 Jul 86 p 4

[Text]



Columnist on Sison Cebu Lecture

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 13 Jul 86 pp 4, 16

[Commentary by Godofredo M. Roperos: "Legalize the CPP"]

[Text]

THERE were a lot of people crowding the U.P. Cebu auditorium yesterday morning to listen to Prof. Jose Maria Sison, one of the country's recognized revolutionary, talk on the Philippine situation in general, and on the possible coalition government between the Communist Party of the Philippines New Peoples Army National Democratic Front and the Madame Cory Aquino administration, in particular.

It is difficult to determine what percentage of the

crowd were there just to satisfy a curiosity, and what percentage were there because of interest and sympathy to the cause that Professor Sison obviously espoused, regardless of his demurrer that he was only speaking for himself as a political scientist and a member of the academe, and not as a former head of the CPP or as a revolutionary leader.

Most of those who attended the Cebu Breakfast Club/National Press Club

Credo-sponsored "show" were young people, students most of them, who were probably still in grade school at the time Joma was apprehended and incarcerated as an insurgent leader by the deposed Marcos regime. The older ones, the thirtyish and above group, who were there, were decidedly out-numbered. But it

was the older ones who were trying to field the most questions.

It appeared to us then, that it was the older ones who were most anxious to pin Joma down on certain commitments on what the revolutionary movement's real intent is, in proposing a coalition government. What the CPP/NPA/NDF wants to achieve, if its proposal will be given due course by the incumbent national leadership. On this regard, however, he was rather equivocal, saying that it can probably help attain the country's aspired for stability.

Along this line, Joma mentioned the possibility of socialist countries openly coming to the aid of the Philippines under a coalition government. But suppose, a coalition government will not be tenable under our present circumstance, what then? Professor Sison's reply to this question exuded a strong sense of optimism that the country is now moving towards a condition where the Cory government will find it more advantageous to coalesce with the CPP/NPA/NDF.

We propounded the question of whether the revolutionary group's pursuit for a coalition government is not merely a subterfuge, or perhaps a "trap" for the government so the CPP/NPA/NDF can hasten the takeover of the whole country, and thus terminate earlier the revolutionary situation. We pointed out what happened in Laos where a similar situation occurred, which the communists used as an

opportunity to consolidate its control of Laotian government.

While Joma admits to this possibility, yet, he also pointed out that an equal risk also works similarly on the part of the revolutionary movement. He pointed out the case of Indonesia where the communist movement miscalculated the capability of the government to counter its move and it suffered a setback it has not been able to recover from to this day.

In any case, the encounter at the U.P., to our mind, offered a good argument for the legalization of the CPP, and allow its ideological proponents to sell their ideas to the people, just like any regular political party, and compete legitimately for the Filipino mind in the open market. We think that the average Filipino now has attained a certain intellectual maturity that will enable him to discern what concept of government is best suited for the country.

Right now, in keeping the CPP at bay, in allowing it to exist - as if we have any choice - in hiding, as it were, it is operating beyond the pale of the law, and therefore, it does anything it wishes to do. But once it is legitimized, and its members and leaders emerge to the "surface", they must have to exist then within our government's legally established parameters for the nation's political players to play in.

This has been done in many democratic countries in Western Europe, and this is so in the United States.

Hence, there is no reason why we cannot do the same here. We are sure that to legalize the CPP is to allow our people to make a judgment on the soundness of its ideology and evaluate its program of government as against what we have already known and experienced. That, to our mind, is the most practical thing to do.

And it will, once and for all, do away with the "mystique" that the communist ideology has been endowed with it by its "underground" proponents, and thus enable it to hold so much attraction for our youth in school, and our people in the rural areas. Legalization appears to us now as one sure way to solve our present insurgency problem.

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 13 Jul 86 pp 17, 18

[Text] **Security operations will continue to be intensified throughout Central Visayas despite ongoing peace talks between the government and rebel panels, the military yesterday said.**

According to Recon 7 Chief Col. Edgardo M. Abenina, ongoing operations were bolstered with the capture this week of 13 suspected members of the communist-led New People's Army (NPA)-sparrow unit in Bulacao, Pardo, Cebu city.

"There is no reason for us to stop striking at known rebel hideouts as no ceasefire has yet been agreed," he said.

Aside from this, the Recon 7 chief said the threat brought about by communist insurgency has not been eliminated or neutralized.

CRIME LAB

Meanwhile, members of the Cebu City police station can now use the crime laboratory facilities at the Cebu Central Colleges college of criminology.

Capt. Inocencio G. Sanchez, PC INP public information officer, said the use of the facilities was extended by lawyer Augusto W. Go, president of the CCC and member of the Sangguniang Panglungsod.

He said use of the facilities was made possible upon representations of lawyer Artemio

Panganiban of the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and consultant dean of the CCC criminology department.

Sanchez said this is being done as CCC's commitment to assist in the peace and order campaign of the city.

"While we realize the need for peace, we cannot also allow these terrorists to continue attacking us or endanger the stability of the region," Abenina said.

He said counter-insurgency is not only the concern of the military but of the citizens as well.

Abenina said an information furnished by some civilians initially led to the arrest of a suspected sparrow member and resulted in the capture of several others in a series of raids.

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 14 Jul 86 pp 3, 18

[Text]

A 50-man band of the communist-led New People's Army (NPA) is now openly recruiting and conducting teach-ins in at least four hinterland barangays in Danao city.

A Danao city resident whose identity is being withheld told Sun*Star Daily last night the NPA band is armed with Armalite rifles, a M 203 grenade launcher, carbines, several springfield rifles and some Japanese rifles.

He said the insurgents have already gained headway in the barangays of Danasan, Pili, Magtagobto and Cambubho.

These barangays, he added, share a common border with the towns of Balam-ban, Asturias and Tuburan where communists are reportedly building up their forces.

He said rebels have successfully won over some 70 percent of the residents in these four mountain barangays.

SOFTENED

Targets of the ongoing recruitment by NPA cadres are the coal miners and their dependents and the displaced gunmakers in Danao city, he said.

Danao gunmakers who are concentrated in the hinterlands and are very suspicious of new faces, have reportedly softened recently after being assured of protection by the rebels.

A few months back, an intelligence report confirmed the current efforts of the communist underground movement to infiltrate the hinterland barangays of Danao city which share a common border with the three other towns from northwest part of the province.

In a recent meeting with some gunmakers, Recom 7 Chief Col. Edgardo M. Abenina warned against the dangers if Danao city's gunmakers are won over to the communist side.

LSE III

NPA Plans Bared

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 15 Jul 86 pp 1, 2

[Article by Leo S. Enriques III]

[Text] The Communist-led New People's Army (NPA) in Cebu planned to attack weak police or military installations here for six months last May.

The rebel movement also planned to use firearms stolen from a school in Negros for its operations here.

These were disclosed yesterday by suspected rebels who were arrested here last week and currently undergoing tactical interrogation in a military camp here.

They also linked the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) and the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) with the underground movement.

ATTACKS

The rebel suspects told the intelligence community they intended to attack the detachment of the 341st PC company in Naga, Cebu.

The other military installation which they planned to raid is the patrol base of the 344th PC company in Sangat, San Fernando, Cebu.

Both installations, they claimed, are weak and security is lax which could generate a large psychological impact if taken by the rebels.

They said planning for this operation was handled by the southern sector of the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) based in Toledo City and Naga town under the code name Nicaragua.

RIFLES

According to one of the suspects, garrand rifles which they would use were part of those ransacked from the Negros Maritime Academy last year.

He revealed part of the 400 rifles were sent here last May and delivered to their partisans in Balirong, Naga and in Balamban town.

He said the firearms also said the Bayan and the KMU are just legal fronts used by the local underground movement.

They said a lawyer of the KMU gave them a handgrenade which was confiscated from one of them during the raids last week.

The name of the lawyer, identified with the Southern Philippine Federation of Labor (SPFL) Atlas Mining Confederation Development Corporation (ACMDC), was withheld.

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 18 Jul 86 pp 4, 23

[Commentary by Manuel S. Satorre Jr.: "Are they real NPA?"]

[Excerpt]

When some members of the Cebu media heard of the confessions of three captured suspected members of the New People's Army (NPA) in Cebu, their immediate reaction was this: "Are they really NPAs? Aren't they 'Deep Penetration Agents' (DPA) of the military? This obviously indicates a strong skepticism on the part of media when it comes to the insurgency problem in the province. Obviously, this is still part of a feeling they used to have shortly before the February Revolution. They were then told that the NPA problem was nothing but a creation of the military to be able to beef up and justify a larger budget. This is also what the cause-oriented groups had been telling Cebu media men. Now what's really the truth about the matter?

From our own perceptions, the three suspects Fabian Entero alias "Omar", said to be a member of the Sparrow Unit of the CPP-NPA in Cebu; Jose Comahig alias "Erwin", said to be a member of the organizing group of Nagpakabana Magkahiang Mag-uuma; and Allan Climaco alias "Joel", said to be a member of the Propaganda Organizing Team appeared to have been thoroughly brain-washed when they spoke during the press conference at the conference room of Camp President Osmeña. Whether the brain-washing was by the CPP-NPA or by the military, that is what is not certain. The question however is whether the circumstance of their arrest and what they

had related were believable. We think there was something to what they were saying. And if this something is later confirmed to be true but still many of us would remain skeptical, then we'll all be in trouble.

What were they saying? They were simply telling us that the insurgency movement in Cebu is as real as the morning sun. It's there and it's actively organizing in two fronts — one legal and the other illegal. The legal arms, they say, are the front organizations, the most prominent of which is BAYAN. The illegal, of course, is the CPP-NPA which sectors are highly compartmentalized, one member of a cadre wouldn't even know who the members in others are. But they are there, they say.

According to Entero, he didn't just join the group. He was recruited and was quietly indoctrinated by what he called the "Five Golden Rays" of Lenin-Marx-Stalin. He started with the General Mass Course and moved higher and higher in learning. As he moved higher in learning, he said he also moved up in rank and responsibility. He was even made to lead a Sparrow group until he was arrested last June 12. And what was quite surprising about this man was that he was a mere third year high school student but he sounded very learned and clever.

His most startling revelation was that in every mass action initiated by BAYAN,

there are "Sparrow Units" in the group. They are easily identifiable because they cover their faces with handkerchiefs and carry clubs, he said. They are the people who protect the group, he added. He swore that BAYAN has a direct link with the movement because he was among those who provided support to this group.

But one statement that got us most was when he said that the movement feels there's no difference between deposed President Marcos and President Aquino. "They're the same humans but we still can swallow President Aquino because she's new and hasn't committed much mistake," he declared.

He told newsmen that the movement is expanding through the use of the two fronts — the legal and illegal. The armed group, he said, is also growing because it has received firearms from Negros. The front organizations, of course, are there, he said.

Whether what he was saying were true or not, the fact remains that there are facts there worth looking into. If they're not true, we can take them with a grain of salt. If true, they're quite alarming. For all we know, our neighbors could already be a member of the movement and yet, we don't know this and we even refuse to believe it even if we're told. We'll probably only learn to believe it when they finally take over.

Durano Coal Mines Raided

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 20 Jul 86 pp 1, 2

JPRS-SEA-86-149
28 August 1986

[Text]

Some 50 heavily-armed men in fatigue uniforms, calling themselves "the army of the people", raided the coal mines of a former northern Cebu town mayor at about 2 p.m. last Friday and took away radio and television sets and an undetermined number of vehicles from the mine site in Lawaan, Danao city.

A composite task force dispatched to the mine site immediately within three hours of the incident by Regional Unified Command (RUC) 7 chief Col. Romulo Querubin failed to monitor the movements of the armed men.

Maj. Bartolomeo Bagares, RUC 7 public information officer, dismissed radio reports of ambushed soldiers as "false and fabricated."

100 MEN?

Former Sogod Mayor Thaddeus Durano, owner of the coal mines, told a reporter that the armed men who raided his coal mine numbered about 100.

In his report to RUC 7 officials, Durano said while one half of the group ransacked the mine's offices of valuables, the other half ordered the workers, including Rito Casura, barangay captain of Lawaan, to gather in front of them.

The assembled workers were told that they were "the army of the people" and they did not believe in the ceasefire talks being initiated by the Aquino government.

NO TRACE

The armed men said the Aquino government "is practically the same as that of the Marcos regime."

They claimed the Aquino government has failed to solve the vital issues of feudalism, American imperialism and bureaucrat capitalism.

When they were through with the lecture, they escaped towards the hinterlands of Asturias taking along with them vehicles, radio and television sets, RUC said.

Meanwhile, troopers, led by Maj. Salvador Guitano, Cebu PC-ENP provincial commander, had not found any trace of the armed men as of 3 p.m. yesterday. EMG

NPA Claims Raid

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 28 Jul 86 pp 1, 2

[Text]

The New People's Army (NPA) in Cebu yesterday claimed responsibility for the raid on the coal mines and residence of Thaddeus Durano in Danao city last July 18.

The admission was contained in a press statement dated July 26 sent to Sun* Star Daily by the NPA-Cebu Provincial Operation Command through National Democratic Front (NDF) media

liaison officer Adora Sales.

The action, according to the NPA-Cebu, was in line with its policy to "completely dismantle the remnants of the Marcos fascist machinery."

The actions against the Duranos are "just because of their long list of crimes to the Cebuano and Filipino people," the press statement added.

The NPA-Cebu has accused the Duranos of having committed such crimes as:

- o Amassing enormous wealth through graft and corruption under the patronage of now deposed President Marcos;

- o Having built big private armies with the support of the deposed President;

- o Grabbing vast lands from the poor peasants and committing "brutal forms of oppression against the people."

"Right now, they (Duranos) are solidifying their forces and are establishing allies with other reactionary forces within and outside of the government in order to preserve their economic, political and military power," the NPA-Cebu said.

MASS MEETINGS

NPA-Cebu added that after its July 18 raid, it has been conducting mass meetings.

During those meetings, "they called on the people to consolidate the gains of the February popular uprising and unite in the struggle for complete social emancipation and national liberation."

The NPA-Cebu also took exception to a published report saying that the NPA-Danao raiders allegedly said before a crowd that "NPA did not trust the Aquino Government and placed no hope in ceasefire talks set between the Government and leftist insurgency."

It said the CPP-NPA stands by its position of crucial support to President Aquino's government based on the perception that although hers is a centrist regime, "President Aquino does not have full control of the reactionaries in the New Armed Forces of the Philippines (NAFP), local big businessmen and big landlords."

INSINCERITY

The NPA-Cebu charged these reactionaries responsible for sowing seeds of disunity among the people.

It also accused the military of insincerity in handling the warlord issue, particularly on the Duranos. It said:

"Col. Romulo Querubin's command has not gone beyond public pronouncements and 'moro-moro' raids in dismantling the Durano fiefdom, when it is public knowledge that the arsenal of modern weapons of Durano's private army is intact up to the present."

The press statement, however, did not mention the items taken from the Danao raid. ELB

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 25 Jul 86 pp 1, 2

[Text]

PC Cebu Commander Lt. Col. Rodolfo Garcia disclosed yesterday the underground movement now have children in the ranks of the New People's Army (NPA).

He said this was confirmed in last Friday afternoon's raid at the mountain resthouse of former Sogod Mayor Thaddeus Durano in Lawa-an, Danao city.

Garcia revealed in an interview with Sun-Star Daily that eight out of the 80 raiders who ransacked the Durano resthouse were children.

Witnesses, according to Garcia, described these children to be between 9 to 12 years old, clad in fatigue shirts and sandals and armed with carbine rifles or cal. 38 revolvers.

In a related development, the Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP) - Cebu executive committee yesterday claimed the Red scare is "no longer effective in sowing fear."

It also claimed the revolutionary movement is partially responsible for the success of the February Revolution which brought into power President Aquino.

The press statement dated July 23 was signed by National Democratic Front (NDF) media liaison officer "Adora Sales."

EXPLOITATION

"These children were not from Danao city and were utilized by their adult companions as lookouts or external security, while the personal be-

longings and household appliances of Durano worth P70,000 were carted away," the PC Cebu commander added.

He expressed belief that the underground movement must be desperately in need of new recruits, otherwise they would not take in children to beef up their ranks.

However, Garcia also revealed the children are being exploited by the Communists for propaganda purposes.

"Who can stop the NPA from claiming publicly that these armed children are victims of military atrocities if they are wounded or killed in an encounter with the military?" he asked.

'FIGHT LIKE MEN'

Aside from this, Garcia said, such pattern was observed during the Vietnam and Cambodian wars, where children were used by Communists effectively as couriers, spies, and armed combatants.

"Communists like the NPA have really no regard for human lives. Otherwise, they would have spared the innocent children from their evil intentions," he said.

Garcia challenged the NPA to fight like real men and not use children as their shields or bait, in the battleground "which is different from the playgrounds."

He also asked all responsible parents in the province not to allow their children to be used as tools by men who espouse a godless ideology.

CLAIM

In claiming responsibility for the success of the February Revolt, the CPP-Cebu said:

NAMED

"The popular uprising last February was made possible after several years of perseverance in revolutionary organizing. Solid organizing work, which brought about its consequent expansion of revolutionary and democratic forces, prepared and eventually led the people to end the Marcos fascist regime."

It named the New Armed Forces of the Philippines (NAFP), the US consulate, Marcos loyalists like Durano, Atines, and Oulas and the Nasuko group, the Associated Labor Union-Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (ALU-TUCP) and the traditional politicians in the Aquino government as among those waging a concerted anti-Communist campaign.

The press statement was the second letter sent to Sun-Star Daily in one week.

Durano Kin Hits NPA Charges

Cebu City SUN STAR DAILY in English 30 Jul 86 pp 20, 2

[Text]

Former Sugbo Mayor Thaddeus D. Durano yesterday branded the charges against the Durano clan by the New People's Army (NPA) Cebu provincial operation command as "politically motivated" to discredit them.

In a talk with **Sun-Star Daily**, Durano also hurled the challenge to Adora Sales, media liaison officer of the National Democratic Front (NDF), to prove their charges against the Duranos.

The NPA, who claimed responsibility in the robbery-raid last July 18 of the coal mine and resthouse of Thaddeus D. Durano in the mountain barangay of Lawaan, Danao city, charged the Duranos with:

- Amassing enormous wealth through graft and corruption under the patronage of deposed President Marcos.

- Having built big private armies with the support of the deposed President, and

- Grabbing vast lands from the poor peasants and committing "brutal" form of oppression against the people.

He said all these accusations are "pure blackmail" to besmirch their family. He said he knows that the people behind these leftist groups are very much ambitious to get hold of the vote-rich first district of Cebu, particularly Danao city.

A CHALLENGE

On the second charge, the former mayor said if they have the private armies they could have put up a firefight against the NPA when it raided his resthouse in Lawaan last July 18.

Durano pointed out that the recent "blatant and emboldened" posture of the NPA and NDF against anybody is an insult and a challenge to the capability of the New Armed Forces of the Philippines (NAFP), particularly to RUC 7 and Recon 7, in suppressing insurgency in this province.

The young Durano said their lawyers have already studied the possibility of filing criminal charges against Sales, who represented the NPA and NDF. He said he hoped this country will not fall into the hands of Communists and the coal mine rob-raid will not be repeated.

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CSO: 4200/1308

PHILIPPINES

NPA FIGURE DETAILS DPA LIQUIDATIONS, INVESTIGATION, CHANGES

Manila MR. & MS. (Special Edition) in English 6-12 Jun 86 pp 16-19

[Article by J. R. Alibutud: "NPA's Killing NPA's; Did the 'Zombies' Do It?"]

[Text]

IN the gathering dusk high up in the mountains somewhere in north-eastern Mindanao, some of the 50 or so soldiers of NPA commander Solo played basketball on the full-length dirt court hewn out of the mountainside. They joined the 80-member main guerilla unit based in the area.

Solo and his men had just arrived the day before after a ten-day hike from a camp in Agusan del Norte. Some of them sported long hair. But this visit of Solo was no R and R date; they were to be investigated about the events which had transpired in a rebel camp in Antongalon, some 15 kilometers from Butuan City, capital of Agusan del Norte.

At least 25 people were tortured and killed in the area from August 1985 to Feb. 18 when military forces from the 30th IB shelled and assaulted the area. Majority of the tortur-

ings and the killings occurred in November and December 1985 while the camp was under the command of two men high up in the CPP hierarchy whom the rebels chose to term as Juan and Fidel. Solo took over command only in January and no one else was killed in the camp until the military assault in the middle of February.

Not wanting to try the 21-year-old Solo by publicity, Ka Oris, a member of the Northeastern Mindanao Regional Party Committee said that further information about Solo's involvement was *sub judice* until the Party's formal investigations into the Antongalon killings were completed.

The 20-30 minute fire-fight and the ensuing mortar shelling killed seven of the 16 suspected DPAs (Deep Penetration Agents) being held by the rebels. Four more detainees were killed

by the rebels rather than let them fall into the hands of the military. Of the five survivors, four were captured by the military while one escaped. Three government soldiers and three members of the rebel security force were also killed.

When the dust of battle had settled, military propagandists pounced on the matter of executed suspected DPAs and the presence of mass graves in the area to paint the rebels with the Khmer Rouge taint so ably hurled by the American writer Ross Munro.

An 80-man fact finding team led by human rights workers in Butuan City last March 13 to 16, uncovered a total of 21 bodies in several mass graves in sitios Tagulahi, Dukotboo, and Loreto II in Antongalon. Only six of the bodies were identified. Most of the bodies were either hogtied with rope or bound by chains secured with either

Yeti or Yale padlocks. Several bore marks of severe torture.

On March 10, three days before the fact-finding mission had started, human rights workers were able to interview an alleged NPA by the name of Commander Tiger who had surrendered to the military. Tiger related that he had been one of the guards of the captives of the NPA but he surrendered because he was confused with what he saw in the camp: NPAs killing fellow NPAs. Tiger added that there were still more mass graves to be found in the area.

What really happened in Antongalon? And who killed and tortured all those people? Were the killings committed by some fanatic, cultist group which the military attributed to the insurgents or was it the work of the so-called "Zombies", the military Deep Penetration Agents who join the NPAs and quietly sabotage the rebel operations from within? Or are those NPAs really as ruthless as the military claims they are?

In a three-day visit to a rebel camp in Northeastern Mindanao, Ka Oris and five other members of the Regional Party Committee related the NPA version of the story. Ka Oris stressed, "We have a moral responsibility to explain to the public the truth about the Antongalon tragedy."

Northeastern Mindanao had been one of the fastest growing rebel sectors in the country. Barely five years

after the rebel groundwork was done in 1981, the insurgents wielded vast clout in the area. The period particularly from 1983-84 was one of very rapid expansion. This big surge in both mobilizations and resources slowed down in 1985 where the first signs of the sins of over-rapid expansion began to manifest itself.

There were mysterious failures of NPA tactical operations which may have been due to sabotage. The military it seemed had knowledge of regional military plans, guerilla front divisions, and other sensitive information. There was the sabotage of the NPA mass base campaigns. Drug abuse as a major problem appeared among NPA rank and file. And a general looseness of discipline appeared among the rebel cadres.

There was a general agreement that the NPA had had a security problem of immense proportions. Military agents it seemed had penetrated even the highest echelons of the NPA structure and they were wreaking havoc.

It was in 1982 that the first military DPA (Or as the NPAs in the area called them, *pusyente* or PX) was caught. But it was only in 1984 that another DPA was caught and sent home. Meanwhile many of the recruits without reliable background check-ups were also sent home.

Oris emphasized that the DPAs were never maltreated. This is the official policy. Depending on the

gravity of their crimes (blood debts) and the damage that they caused they were either sent home with fare money given to them or they were executed with either a knife or a bullet. In the 1984 and 1985 plenums it was decided and reaffirmed that only after thorough investigation and study by the Regional Command or by the Executive Committee could someone be given a death penalty. No single entity could order another rebel's death.

The first major clean-up of DPAs in Mindanao was started in the north-central sector where their presence was detected earlier. On Aug. 6, 1985 a letter from the Mindanao Commission ordering the close surveillance, arrest, and investigation of a married couple suspected to be DPAs fell into the hands of an NPA commander codenamed Juan. That letter from the Party Regional secretary was not supposed to be read by Juan. Without official permission and on his own, Juan implemented the order, the husband being arrested Aug. 8, and the wife on the ninth.

A day later, the wife escaped, but the person who helped her escape was caught. More and more names were forced out of both the husband and the man who helped the husband's wife escape through the use of torture which the rebels euphemistically called "hard tactics" which started Aug. 18.

The two were sentenced

to death on Sept. 7. There were no written documents, formal investigation, or review by higher NPA structures. As the circle of suspected DPAs grew, more were arrested indiscriminately. It was at this time that one rebel area organizer killed himself.

Bothered by reports coming from the camp in Antongalon, the regional structure ordered Juan, Fidel, and others involved to report to the main base. The order went out Sept. 20. An emissary sent by Juan arrived at the main base Oct. 21 with only a verbal report and with a request that the Regional Secretary visit the camp. But he refused.

Juan finally appeared in person on the first of November. But still he had no written report and there was still no clear picture of what was happening back at the main base. After 25 days of close surveillance Juan was finally arrested.

Under the command of Juan, 20 were arrested at the Antongalon Camp. Of these, seven were executed, two were tortured to death, and 11 others were detained under horrifying conditions.

Juan's second in command Fidel, turned out to be more vicious than his former boss leading to his preventive detention on Dec. 21 and his relief by Solo on Dec. 21. Under Fidel, 31 more were arrested of which another seven were executed, six tortured to death, and 16 were detained. The 16 detained passed on to the

command of Solo until the military shelled the place on Feb. 18.

Because of the difficulty of communications in the area and the concurrent military operations which kept the rebels busy through the end of the year, the Regional Command practically lost control of the camp in Antongalon which led to the unauthorized arrest, torture, and detention of all in all 51 people, resulting in a total of 44 deaths through execution, torture, suicide, and military action.

Events really conspired against the main base when two couriers sent Jan. 8 to fetch the 16 detained were ambushed by the military. A further plan was thwarted by a big military operation in the area on Jan. 18. Rebels said at least nine battalions of military were in the area.

Ka Oris said that in response to these killings, the Regional Committee had started fund-raising programs for the victims of the Antongalon tragedy. The aid would be coursed through channels not identified to be insurgents.

"We have a responsibility not only to the relatives of the dead but also to the people who have thrown their lot into the revolution," Oris explained.

Two other rebel camps in northeastern Mindanao staged their own cleansing campaigns. But this time they were authorized and monitored. At a certain Camp B, 51 were arrested

of which three were proven to be DPAs out of eight so far investigated. At Camp C, 13 were arrested, of which 11 were released, one escaped, and one committed suicide. Those arrested but found innocent were given vacations to get over their trauma, but most of them, Oris said remain with the rebels.

Those found guilty of being DPAs are sentenced on the basis of their past political performance, their background, how much they have contributed to the movement, and behavior during detention. Taken into account it can either mitigate or aggravate his sentence.

What now of Fidel and Juan? Detained now for more than seven months, chained hand and foot all the time, Juan still remains unrepentant, "I accept that our own handling of the DPAs were wrong but I think that it was not all wrong. Although we know that the military is fascist we can still try to convince them compared to these DPAs who should have had political consciousness but who are lower than the lowest form of life."

By his own account, Juan was the son of a rich peasant, the youngest of 10 children. He became an activist in Davao in 1971-72 before going full-time in 1976.

Fidel on the other hand fully recognizes the enormity of his crime. He said that during the latter part of the Antongalon experience he began analyzing what he was doing and he said he became

confused. He confessed a deep hatred for DPAs. "We have been fighting together for so long and then we find enemies in our midst," said Fidel.

Fidel said his basis for treating suspected DPAs that way was because he followed the concepts laid down by his superior, Juan. "Hard tactics were supposedly used in the neighboring region. These suspected DPAs are no longer comrades. It is just treatment for DPAs."

Fidel was born of a middle-class family but he did not graduate from high school because he lacked some CAT units since he "did not like things military".

"It was only when I was detained that I really realized that what we had been doing was against the official policy," said Fidel who is also bound hand and foot with chains to prevent him from trying to escape or committing suicide.

Formal investigation into the case of Juan, Fidel, and other responsible officers of the Antongalon camp started April 13 and lasted till May 11, a total of 28 days. The proceedings were taped in 96 cassettes of TDK C-60 tape, and taken down in numerous King Jim and Cattleya fillers.

There was a one week preliminary investigation by an investigation committee of eight men and an audience of about 60 which included witnesses, members of the NPA, the mass base, white area cadres, released

detainees and detainee observers.

The procedure holds that there must be a preliminary investigation, a final testimony from both respondents and witnesses, a cross examination and the evaluation of the investigative committee composed of high-ranking party cadres. The part where the possible DPA connections of both Fidel and Juan were discussed was the sole closed-door hearing because of security concerns. There would be written questions from the audience and individual responses.

The case of Juan and Fidel are now under final deliberation by the committee. The consensus is that there can only be two verdicts, either expulsion or death. The whole trial went on for nine to ten hours a day from eight-12 in the morning, 1:30 to four in the afternoon, and from seven to ten in the evening.

Ka Oris and rest of the members of the Regional Party Committee would not comment on whether Juan or Fidel or both were DPAs. "We do not want to pre-empt the decision of the committee. At the moment we cannot say whether it was conscious sabotage or simply a gross error," Oris said. "There will be a summing up to avoid such things like this from happening again."

"This investigations are demoralizing to both the investigator and the one being investigated. Imagine you're investigating someone

you spent years with, but will have to do it because we have to find out who is the enemy or not," said Oris.

The rebel spokesman said that as of now all detainees are being treated right, they eat the same food, the guards roll cigarettes for them, they have proper bedding, and in case of enemy attack, there are specific orders for their guards to defend them.

But isn't chaining your prisoners night and day a form of torture too? Oris wearing his fatigue pants, and tattered blue *camisa de chino* sounded apologetic when he said, "Yes, we agree it is dehumanizing. Chaining deprives you of even your basic right of freedom of movement. But it is a matter of necessity, guerrillas have no prison, cells cannot be moved, they cannot be allowed to simply wander about the camp. But we have to understand that those chained are no longer just a threat to individuals but to the revolution itself. But even if they are under detention, they are still comrades."

The rebels said that there are new concepts now in the treatment of DPAs which will be standardized to avoid a repeat of the Antongalon tragedy. All those arrested still have human dignity; at the minimum they are still human beings. All decisions are to be studied collectively, there will be no individual decisions. In case of an enemy attack, there will be security forces to protect the arrested ones.

"Do the NPA still use torture? "In certain cases we inflict physical pain in a limited way only when we are certain that the subject has something to hide. But there must be no permanent damage. Only when the security of the organization is at stake. There are always doctors around when we use hard tactics."

Perhaps their worst torture they say is that they hang up people by their feet. "We used hard tactics on only about 20% of the subjects. We have a conscience too. We don't like it."

The damage suffered by the northeastern sector was immense. "Party machinery in the four political centers of the region and the regional white area machinery was destroyed. Territory in one of the fronts was lost and its Front Guerilla Unit was severely damaged. There was a loss of trust between the BHB, the party and revolutionary mass organizations. The central organ of the region was dislocated for six months. The prestige of the CPP-NPA was severely damaged and the inhuman acts and terror done in the Antongalon camp were turned into black

propaganda. It has derailed the cleansing campaign against the DPA informers in the revolutionary movement. The armed and political struggle in the region was greatly weakened, a major setback in the region's revolutionary movement, and it occurred at the time when there was a major change in the political situation of the whole nation," stated the damage report made out by the Regional Executive Committee.

Too rapid expansion, it said resulted in too little consolidation work and loose security check-ups, that is why the DPAs had been able to penetrate.

Moral questions, it is said, has no place in a war of any sort or magnitude. Conscience and compassion it seems, are liabilities in conflict. The need for victory is ultimate. The military calls the NPA "brutal, godless terrorists". The NPA calls the military "rabid, fascist, mercenaries". There's a war on out there and it is not just a shooting war. Forget the ceasefire, the battle for hearts and minds is still on. The questions would have to remain unasked. Who's the pot to call the kettle black?

PHILIPPINES

REPORT ON NPA-MISAMIS GOVERNOR MEETING, BACKGROUND

Manila HR, & MS. (Special Edition) in English G-12 Jun 86 pp 20, 21

[Article by Romi M. Gatuslao: "Dialogue With NPA in Refugee-Clogged Province--
'A Ceasefire Should Not Be Rammed Down Our Throat'"]

[Text]

IT was a meeting without precedence. Just four days before President Corazon Aquino stepped into Davao City on May 23 and announced plans for regional-level truce efforts, Misamis Oriental Governor-designate Vicente Y. Emano was on a gruelling hike to meet rebel leaders for the same goal.

For the rebels, it was some sort of a first, too. "The north central Mindanao region is really meritorious," declared one rebel cadre. Just when they seemed to be on the defensive last March, an electronic mine blew off the ground a Chermite APC in Barangay Lanise, Claveria, and bore a three-and-a-half ft. hole in the ground. The CPP-NPA north central region comprising Front 4 (East Misamis Oriental and a part of Agusan Norte), Front 6 (Bukidnon), and Front 12 (West Misamis Oriental) -- unprecedentedly pulled a string of political kidnappings last year

beginning with Navy Cmdr. Ruben Domingo in May. For the duration of Domingo's stay with them, the rebels issued several communiques explaining the reason for the abduction -- to check whether the Mindanao Steel Corporation manager was involved in intelligence work. He was released after 105 days. In November, followed 14 Public Works personnel including two engineers, to investigate whether they had a role in the military's counter-insurgency activities.

Now, these people are ready to suspend hostilities -- however temporary, however vague the assurances are -- just to help relieve the refugee-plagued province. And facing them was an equally determined governor, who, barely three months in office, has resolved that his administration should start with the return of the displaced people to their farms and as much as

possible lead the normal lives they once knew.

But the terror guards that grew during the Marcos regime still instill fear in the hearts of the people. It is more than coincidence that terrors thrive more favorably whenever there is military presence as in Claveria now -- making Emano's task difficult. There is then the problem of rehabilitation -- of how far the government projects can go before possible future hostilities break out again.

After a six-hour travel -- part on foot, part on horseback -- on an inclining trail filled with booby traps (which were deactivated for his party's entry), Emano reached a rebel post at 8 p.m. on May 20 where two top ranking members of the regional party had waited. They were Nido Nabong, a.k.a. Charo, an ex-Atenean scholar who has spent most of the past five years in the hills and the governor-

designate's second cousin; and Ka Vernon, a familiar face to visiting journalists yet only says as a back-grounder that "the last time I was photographed was in 1972". What resulted from their talks which lasted up to 3 a.m. and stretched up to the morning hours of May 22, was a "verbal and non-binding ceasefire agreement with no signatures involved". As Nabong stressed "Only sincerity would firmly back our position" whose strings would depend largely on whether they are attacked by the military or not, and on the discontinuance of terrorism perpetrated by fanatic groups on their civilian supporters. As the NPAs have stated in their position paper, their aim is to "serve the interests of the people more" by participating in such a dialogue with Emano.

Aside from calling on the evacuees to return to their homes, Nabong personally asked aid for Claveria evacuees when he was put on radio contact with Social Services Deputy Minister Karina Constantino David by Emano. (David visited the province to check the evacuee problem and was with Tagoloan OIC Paulino Emano in a refugee camp for 200, when the conversation took place.) Nabong assured the governor that the threats and harassments would not be inflicted by the Red Army on the populace. Nabong also appealed to "victims of black propaganda against the NPA" to go back to their homes

without fear.

A contributing factor in the NPA's willingness to meet Emano, in what was considered the first official and open talks between a government official and Communist rebels, was the new outlook generated by the new Aquino government. Aside from heeding "the call of moderation (for both sides) to enable Aquino to pursue her democratization plans," Nabong said tremendous pressure has been lifted from local officials to go against the rebels as was the case in Marcos' time. "This erases an irritant," he remarked.

Ka Vernon added that because they "respect the civil bureaucracy's move towards peace", there has been relatively no firing from their lines although "complaints against military-backed fanatics are starting to filter again". He related that on or about April 20, a rebel group caught a seven-man patrol of the 58th Infantry Battalion eating lunch in kilometer 24, Pelaez, Claveria unaware that they were surrounded. "Yet," Vernon stressed, "our comrades did not take advantage of the situation because they are under instructions to honor the pact and pledge".

The pact — signed by Emano, Southern Command Chief Brig. Gen. Jose Magno, 4th Inf. Division boss Brig. Gen. Mariano Adalem, and Cagayan de Oro Archbishop Patrick Cronin, D.D. — assured the safety of 1,400 Claveria

evacuees who went home to six barangays last month. Aside from shielding the rebels from unlawful arrests and other violations of their human rights, the pact theoretically allows military presence outside its barracks in the performance of their duties other than operations against the rebels.

Authorized by the pledge and pact to talk to the rebels, the governor would have had a chance to dialogue with the rebels earlier had it not been for a miscommunication during his trip to Claveria April 17 while escorting the evacuees. Now with the lull in hostilities, Emano aims to duplicate his effort by bringing back personally 2,000 evacuees from Salay town to their hinterland homes this week. In coordination with ministries, he plans to use the time to improve roads, schoolbuses and bring in public services to the rural areas. He also wants to move government personnel, who were afraid before, to get to work again in so-called critical areas. Still with the vagaries of the ceasefire, Emano's well-meaning projects could be cut short. Comments one observer: "All Emano might be doing in his term is to shuttle to and from volatile areas and patch up the trouble."

On paper it looks as if Misamis Oriental is on a de facto ceasefire as the pledge and pact of Emano confines the military to their barracks especially in Claveria where it has maintained a strong presence

in six barangays since late February. Although the military claims it does not condone the existence of armed fanatic groups, it seems powerless to disarm and dismantle them as called for by the pact, lest they create hostilities with another faction in an area where NPA influence is pervasive. Besides, the fanatics can be useful as guides in unfamiliar terrain.

On April 25, Tadtad fanatics massacred three farmers and wounded four in Barangay Bulahan, Claveria. At first, the crime was blamed on the NPAs based mainly on an alleged affidavit of Benigno Galla, one of the wounded. Galla, however, now has executed a sworn statement before human rights lawyer Mar Carrasco saying he was tricked into signing the statement and readily pointed to fanatics as the killers.

"What shall we do if people complain to us?" asked Nabong, "surely we cannot sit down at the sides." He warned that southern Cagayan de Oro where fanatics allegedly supported by a KBL kingpin

operate, could be a flashpoint.

Mainly because of these uncertainties, the NPA is not prepared to commit more than a partial ceasefire. "Given the rule that if the military moves out from certain areas and in turn we will not attack, the ceasefire will be simple to follow,"

Nabong said. The case, however, is different when the presence of the military in forward areas of Claveria, according to the rebel leaders, has enabled the soldiers to conduct raids on small-unit operations, though defensive in character. "We want to adopt a wait and see attitude," Nabong expressed.

Doubtful still on the motives of the government in general for suggesting a ceasefire and disturbed by its strong words, Ka Vernon points out a dilemma in signing a full ceasefire agreement. "In case, they attack," he presupposes, "our hands will be tied. Secondly, if they continuously violate the agreement and point to us, what can we do? They're doing it now, how much more if we sign one?" Nabong discerns President Aquino's ultimatum for the

rebels "to accept a six-month ceasefire or else" as something done from a position of strength. The government being the stronger entity says Nabong, "should not just ram the ceasefire offer down our throats." Instead, he suggests, it should first give concessions that "genuinely seeks an answer to the basic problems of the Filipino masses".

Despite the frailties and the shaky terminology of a "non-binding" ceasefire, the fact remains that negotiations in line with Aquino's plans, have been made. The suspension of hostilities at least can benefit stricken evacuees and give Emano a chance to show his worth. As he said before he embarked on this mission: "I believe these people are real ideologues who cannot simply be told to lay down their arms because we have a new government. The rebels have made the step and have shown their sincerity and their resolve to honor their word, we cannot achieve peace if we from the civilian government will never give it a try."

/9274

CSO: 4200/1315

PHILIPPINES

MINDANAO MILF NEGOTIATOR RELEASED, MISTAKENLY DETAINED

OIC Intervenes

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 28 Jun 86 pp 1, 10

[Text]

Arrest of Hadji Murad, chief of staff of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and right-hand man of faction leader Hashim Salamat, and seven of his men last Wednesday in Marawi City was considered a "pure accident" as clarified by Lupong Tagapagpaganap ng Pook 12 Officer-In-Charge Atty. Zacaria Candao when interviewed yesterday at his residence here.

Following that incident, rumors indicated that the MILF will stage an all-out attack on Cotabato and Iligan Cities in retaliation to the said arrest as this was a violation of the ceasefire agreement but "this is unfounded".

The Philippine News Agency reported Wednesday that Murad and his bodyguards were intercepted by PC troopers but "Gutang blamed Murad for not informing the military beforehand that he was passing to contact his commanders for the impending negotiations for a ceasefire with the government in Central Mindanao."

The same agency further reported that Murad was later released to the custody of Candao, MILF legal counsel, "in the spirit of reconciliation." Other

informants said the apprehended party were man-handled but gave no other detail.

Asked to shed light on this matter, OIC Candao said that Murad was not outrightly detained as earlier reported. He added that the troopers did not "personally recognize the party," taking them as suspicious elements, but "everything is settled, now."

To prove his point, Candao officially revealed that the New Armed Forces of the Philippines and the MILF have forged a ceasefire agreement when Regional Unified Command and Regional Command 12 chief Brig. Gen. Rodrigo Gutang met with Murad following that incident.

Candao also denied having Murad under his custody as no release documents were signed. He further clarified that Brig. Gen. Gutang had no intention of detaining the MILF chief of staff.

The OIC allayed fears of strained relationship between the military and the MILF after that arrest since both parties showed signs of sincerity in effecting a peace formula in accordance to the Tripoli Agreement. He remarked earlier that the MILF and MNLF are finding grounds to reunite to end the Mindanao conflict.

Murad was even given a

safe-conduct pass so he can freely move in the country to implement the ceasefire.

The NAFF-MILF ceasefire monitoring center besides that of the MNLF is located at the LTF 12 complex with Murad holding office there, Candao added.

Details

Based on accounts as narrated by Candao when he flew with Gutang to Marawi, the jeep ridden by Murad's group coaxed out at the middle of the highway and was chanced by the PC patrol team who became suspicious of the armed group.

Found in their possession were five .45 caliber pistols, one VHF handset radio, and other valuables.

He confirmed reports that one of Murad's bodyguards was beaten up by the troopers who misconstrued his action in drawing his side-arm "as an act of resistance".

When brought to the town proper and televised, military commanders there recognized the arrested group and a dialogue ensued between the military and Murad about the ceasefire.

It was learned that Murad flew back to Cotabato City with Gutang the other day for further talks and then the former went his way. There is no truth to the story that Murad was flown to Manila for detention.

News of Murad's apprehension drew a sympathy march from the multi-sectors in Marawi demanding for their release. -- smt

Cartoon Views Parties Involved

JPRS-SEA-86-149
28 August 1986

Cotabato City THE MINDANAO CROSS in English 28 Jun 86 p 4

[Cartoon]



/9274

CSO: 4200/1315

PHILIPPINES

WE FORUM VIEWS STYLE OF 'UNTOUCHABLE' MUSLIM WARLORD

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 24-30 Jun 86 p 10

[Article by Joel Paredes: "The Untouchable Ali"]

[Text]

Even in his pajamas, Muslim political kingpin Mohammad Ali Dimaporo looks every inch the warlord he is reputed to be.

"Warlord? If you think a warlord is one with plenty of guns but gets what he wants by the point of a gun, then I'm not a warlord," said the grizzled politician during a dawn interview last week in his lakeshore hometown of Binidayan, Lanao del Sur.

Once that is said, several men carrying high-powered firearms dutifully stand guard by his two-storey house near historic Lanao lake.

Aides say "The Boss" is very much concerned with his security. Foxholes, manned by Dimaporo's relatives and some Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) rebels, line the rough roads leading to Binidayan.

There are no high walls ringing the house, which stands next to a large, white mosque. Around it are several shanties occupied by armed guards, some of them in fatigues.

Dimaporo, 68, belongs to the class of warlords which flourished under the Marcos regime. It is not

surprising therefore that his strong-man brand of politics matches that of Ferdinand Marcos, to whom he has vowed undying loyalty.

A tough nut to crack, Dimaporo continues to mystify people who don't quite understand how he can afford to break the rules even after the ouster of his "Idol" Marcos.

For one, Dimaporo is unafraid of the military. Area military commander Gen. Rodrigo Gutang served him several ultimatums to surrender his arms cache or face military action. He reasoned that he needed the guns to protect himself and his followers from rebels and his political rivals.

But the negotiations developed into a war with Dimaporo declaring he would "fight it out" if Gutang's troops moved in. When he finally encountered Gutang in Camp Aguinaldo last week, he made a great show of burying the hatchet, smiles, embraces and all. Political observers in the south long predicted that Dimaporo would come out the winner.

He can still roam the Muslim-dominated Lanao province trailed by his private army - the dreaded "barracudas" - and flaunt himself as a man of peace.

He can easily meet with top officials of the armed forces and play up his usual peace line. Earlier, in fact, he expressed his willingness to pledge allegiance to the Aquino government and turned in 127 firearms (although the military puts it at 77) to his good friend, Brig. Gen. Mariano Adalem.

Many of these arms are "unservicable", protested Brig. Gen. Gutang, who noted that there were no armalites or other sophisticated firearms in the list. But Dimaporo got away with that one too.

Neither did the military officers who attended the "turnover" ceremonies question Dimaporo's armalite-wielding men when he surrendered his carbines, garrands and springfields to Adalem.

Adalem received Dimaporo's guns and Gutang didn't ask why another general, whose jurisdiction did not cover Lanao del Sur, would get the honors of receiving the surrendered "toys".

No one can say for sure how Dimaporo earned the confidence of ex-president Marcos, the military and some influential Muslim leaders. For a man who hardly finished his education, Dimaporo has been well-entrenched in regional politics for 37 years as a congressman and governor. He was appointed a member of Marcos' executive committee, the 10-man council vested with powers to carry out the post-Marcos succession line. Dimaporo also became president of the prestigious Mindanao State University for

over a decade and though he is a native of Binidayan, he was crowned sultan of the nearby town of Masin.

Opponents accuse him of terrorizing voters during elections ever since Marcos declared martial law in 1972. It was in Lanao where Marcos and his KBL partymen won overwhelmingly in allegedly rigged elections.

Yet Dimaporo is still around, untouched, and from all appearances, untouchable.

"If there is anyone who can testify that I have terrorized voters to favor any candidate, I am willing to be shot by musketry," he told his interviewers.

To this day, he claims he rose to the top all because of his sincerity and dedication to public service.

Flavoring the Dimaporo mystique is his peculiar brand of English. Outside of his native Maranao dialect, Dimaporo prefers to speak in English. A veteran newsmen recalls one meeting in Malacanang where Dimaporo took the floor to tell Marcos that there was no truth to reports about violence in his region.

"There is no truth to the rumor that there is trouble in my province," he told the president. "You can personally go there. . . and you can rest in peace."

Of his political opponents, he counts the late ex-congressman Rashid Lucman as his "bitterest enemy". But when he met Luc-

man's widow, Princess Tarhata, who was then negotiating for the release of kidnaped French priest Michel de Gigord, he intoned:

"I never prayed nor think for the destruction of my political enemies. I pray that those Muslims who have a wrong mentality will be directed by God to the right path."

None of his opponents, however, take his perorations seriously. They are cautious whenever they deal with the Muslim strongman who once reportedly told a political foe, "I will kill you confidentially."

So why does Dimaporo enjoy some kind of immunity up to now?

President Aquino admitted in a press conference late last week that the government could not easily disarm warlords "by sheer force".

Aquino said she was informed by her military officers that launching an offensive against Dimaporo and other "Marcos holdovers" could only spark a bloodbath.

By the military's own admission, Dimaporo's 2,000-strong private army could escalate into a rebellion in the region, considering that they are better armed than the Muslim rebels. Even the influential MNLF has only close to 1,000 armed troops in the hinterlands.

"The Dimaporo stigma on Mindanao politics," an elder Muslim leader remarked, "will remain even long after he is gone."

PHILIPPINES

AFF REPORTEDLY BEHIND ZAMBOANGA NORTE GAMBLING

Dipolog City THE MINDANAO OBSERVER in English 16 Jun 86 pp 1, 6

[Text]

Rizal, Z.N. — The proliferation of illegal gambling alleged to be silently-backed by military authorities assigned here has alarmed the Rizal folks on the consequences it may produce. Rizal folks in the know told Mindanao Observer the gambling activities are allegedly sanctioned by military men but had used a local business

man as a front to avoid detection and admonition from military higher ups of the province.

The response of some town folks to participate in the games then greatly alarmed some sectors of the community, since if left unchecked shall prove to be disadvantageous to the people.

Militarymen were alleged to have commended and justified their involvement since it is necessary for them to augment their salaries which are oftentimes delayed.

It was not known if Col. Julianito Manalo, the new Provincial Commander of the province who had done some major accomplishments in the province in such a short span of time, is aware of the alleged involvement of militarymen in gambling activities here.

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CSO: 4200/1315

EXPATRIATE ON LATIN SOLIDARITY, NICARAGUA MODEL

Quezon City WE FORUM in English 24-30 Jun 86 pp 8-9

[Profile by Romy Marinas of Gemma Cruz, founder of Unidad Latinoamericana:
"A Filipino Feminist in Mexico"]

[Text]

Gemma Cruz missed the EDSA revolution by a few hours. A pity, said the 1965 Miss International because she was in the country practically the whole month of February. Her teaching job, however, at the National Autonomous University of Mexico in Mexico City left her no other choice but to leave shortly before "Enrile did it."

She would, however, have her piece of the action in Mexico, home to her and her two children, Fatima and Leon, for the last 10 years. The Mexican media sought her views on the military-civilian uprising to the point that her being founder of the Unidad Latinoamericana could not anymore be kept from public view. She said she would have wanted the fledgling Filipino-Latin American group not to be identified with her society. One reason was that the political nature of the organization was obvious enough from its founding date alone: March 29, 1984.

Not that her adopted country has so much against solidarity groups. In fact, Mexico is one big haven for "progressive political refugees" but not, Gemma stressed, for "rightist or fascist" ones. Mexico, she said, granted asylum to the likes of Jacobo Arbenz of Guatemala and the family of Salvador Allende.

She does not consider herself a political refugee, though, but just a writer who wants to articulate her views the way she used to before martial law was declared in the Philippines. She admitted that she left also for "certain domestic reasons." She is

estranged, "not divorced," from Tonypet Araneta.

Gemma, who now teaches Strategies of Bilateral and Multilateral Negotiations, arrived last week with Rafael, a unionist for a Mexican telephone company, who she refers to simply as "a companero." And no matter how hard she had tried to play down her international-beauty image, she realized that there is no escaping "the black mark in my past," as she terms the title she held 20 years ago.

One of her students, however, discovered her past while researching about Vietnam which Gemma, together with Tonypet, visited in 1968.

"I was very sure that my students will never find out about the Miss International thing because almost all of them were born in 1964," said Gemma, also a columnist for Asian affairs of the Mexican daily *Uno Mas Uno*. With characteristic modesty, she attributes her winning the beauty crown to "the global political context" of that decade, the Vietnam war, she said, having been accelerated because of the Gulf of Tonkin incident.

"I was surprised then because all the Asian contestants entered the semifinals," she recalls. "But that did not stop a group from picketing the contest, anyway, calling it racist."

While she still thinks beauty contests are irrelevant, she does not totally put her foot down on them. She said there is a "positive side" to them, but only if winners can raise "the level of consciousness" of people. Apparently, she was referring to titlists Maita Gomez and Nelia Sancho, good friends of hers dating back to Makibaka, a militant women's group in the sixties. Coincidentally, the 1986 Binibining Pilipinas winners are billeted in the same hotel where she and Rafael have been staying since last week.

Gemma does not consider her being away from the Philippines an obstacle to her espousal of "national liberation." She said for one that there are only a few Filipinos in Mexico who could spread information about the Philippines, adding that Mexico's proximity to the United States and Canada augurs well for her work with the Alliance of Philippine Concerns (APC), a 48-member Filipino-North American-Latin American solidarity group based in California. Furthermore, APC enables her to keep in touch with the Nicaraguan situation, an opportunity that must have later prompted her, before the May congress this year of the APC, to call the United States government as "the belly of the beast, the historic source of military and economic domination of the Philippines." This year, she had twice visited Nicaragua, the first time as a member of the Mexican delegation to a congress of sociologists and the second, as the Spanish interpreter for a Filipino peasant rights advocate.

"We can learn many things from the Sandinista brand of land reform. Also from their economic programs that are really suited to Nicaraguan reality."

Gemma has no plans of staying all her life in Mexico but cannot really say when she'll come home for good. She has managed to keep in touch with her native country by visiting once every two years. Her kids, however, visit every year.

When she does come home to stay, albeit briefly, she never fails to make heads turn. A Hyatt guest was overheard saying, "Si Gemma, si Gemma!" during the interview. Gemma, who will be 43, September 30, still looks like the beauty queen of 20 years ago.

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CSO: 4200/1315

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

NICARAGUA'S HENRY RUIZ SPEAKS TO RADIO CORRESPONDENT

Part 1

BK091525 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 7 Aug 86

[Text] A delegation of the Sandinista Liberation Front and the Nicaraguan Government led by Commander Henry Ruiz, member of the Front National Leadership, has just concluded its friendship visit to Vietnam. In an interview with our radio correspondent, Mr Henry Ruiz had this to say on his visit to Vietnam:

[Begin recording in Spanish fading into English translation] This is my first visit to Vietnam. Though it is a short one, we visited several establishments in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City and were deeply impressed by our visit to the underground tunnels in Cu Chi known as the steel land in Vietnam during the anti-U.S. resistance on the outskirts of Ho Chi Minh City. Not only us, but all Nicaraguan revolutionaries have fine sentiments toward Vietnam. To the Nicaraguan people and other nations struggling for national independence and freedom, the courageous fighting against the imperialist and colonialist aggressors of the Vietnamese people is a great example. The victory of the Vietnamese people is also a vivid lesson for all nations and encouragement to the Nicaraguan people. The lesson is: however small a nation is, it will win once its people are united and determined under the clear-sighted leadership of the party.

We also want to say that our delegation is not the first one to visit Vietnam. Earlier, many high-level delegations of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and Government of Nicaragua visited your country. Each time we visit Vietnam, we learn more precious experiences from the Vietnamese people. In this visit, we know your difficulties in national construction and defense. It is clear that the imperialist colonialist forces who invaded Vietnam in the past have left nothing considerable beside heavy economic and social consequences. Their vestiges are seen in almost all places in Southern Vietnam. However, our Nicaraguan revolutionaries are in sympathy with the truth forwarded by the late President Ho Chi Minh--an outstanding revolutionary of the Vietnamese nation--that is, nothing is more precious than independence and freedom.

We believe that in the near future, with their will, determination, (?courage) and creative labor, the Vietnamese people will rebuild their country more beautiful. I want to say to the Vietnamese people that they have been a revolutionary [as heard], that after this visit to Vietnam, I will become a better revolutionary to lead our people to defend the independence, freedom and rebuild the country as expected by the Nicaraguan people.

We never want bloodshed; but for the genuine independence and freedom of the fatherland, we have to take up arms. [End recording]

Part 2

BK091527 Hanoi International Service in English 1000 GMT 8 Aug 86

[Text] Dear listeners, in our previous broadcast, we brought you the first part of the interview granted to our radio correspondent by revolutionary Commander Henry Ruiz, head of a delegation of the Sandinista National Liberation Front and the Government of Nicaragua which visited Vietnam recently. In today's program, we bring you the last part of the interview:

Asked about the present situation in Nicaragua, Commander Henry Ruiz said: [Begin recording in Spanish fading into English translation] To realize its aggressive plot against Nicaragua the Reagan administration has left no stone unturned, including political and military threats and economic sanctions against our small country with a population of only 3 million. Of late, the Reagan administration used deceitful plots to force the U.S. Congress to approve a \$100-million aid to the Contras to oppose the Nicaraguan revolution. Nicaragua has a population of only 3 million, but 50,000 people died in the war in recent years; 30,000 others have laid down their lives in the fight against the counterrevolutionaries and the U.S. (?fascists). Nicaragua's economy has met with numerous difficulties. The economy is based on agricultural production. In 1982 and 1983, we recorded initial achievements in this field. However, in 1985 and 1986, agricultural production underwent many difficulties due to the U.S. economic sanctions and the Contras' sabotage activities against our country.

Of late, the Contras laid ambushes and even abducted foreign specialists, including those from Sweden and the FRG who came to help our country in economic development. The criminal act taken by the Reagan administration, its mercenaries and Contras, has made the situation in Nicaragua and the Central American region extremely serious. Obviously, the Nicaraguan revolution is undergoing many hard trials but the Nicaraguan people are not afraid. We have rallied a worldwide front, including progressive public opinion in the United States, in support of the Nicaraguan people's just struggle.

Most recently, the Hague International Court indicted the United States for its policy of aggression and intervention against Nicaragua. I would like to say that the U.S. administration [words indistinct] but I affirm that the Nicaraguan people are determined and have enough strength to fight the aggressors. [end recording]

/9604

CSO: 4200/1305

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

MEXICAN VISITOR DISCUSSES IMPRESSIONS OF VISIT

OW091739 Hanoi VNA in English 1542 GMT 9 Aug 86

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Aug (VNA)--"It can be said that the Mexican people's warm feelings towards the Vietnamese people have become a tradition," says Marta Lopez Portillo, president of the Mexican Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam.

At a press conference held in Hanoi at the end of her second visit to Vietnam, Marta Lopez, a relative of the former President Lopez Portillo, recalled: "During the Vietnamese people's resistance war against French colonialism a number of organizations in solidarity with Vietnam were set up in Mexico, mostly spontaneously. Right after the total victory of the Vietnamese people over U.S. imperialism in 1975, the Mexican Committee for the Reconstruction of Vietnam was founded. At the same time a group of young Vietnam sympathizers in Mexico set up the Vietnam Friends Committee. The two organizations merged into the Mexican Committee for Solidarity with Vietnam in 1977."

She went on: "The committee has organized teach-ins, talks, exhibitions and meetings in support of Vietnam and motivated Mexicans of all walks of life to take part in these activities. In 1979 the committee got 50,000 persons to participate in a rally to protest against China's invasion of Vietnam."

Marta Lopez first visited Vietnam in 1975. Asked about her impressions of the changes in Vietnam during the 11 years since liberation, she said: "During our first visit the aftermath of the U.S. war were visible: economic and cultural projects lay in ruins everywhere. We met many persons disabled by shelling and bombings and also many orphans.

"This time, I am deeply impressed by the sweeping changes in your country. I have toured several important projects under construction such as the Hoa Binh power plant in the north and the Tri An power plant in the south. In the social respect, I was deeply moved while touring several rehabilitation centers for drug addicts. I see that the way they are re-educated and treated of their addiction is very humane, which is actually typical of the Vietnamese people and government. Another big achievement recorded by the Vietnamese people during the recent past is the elimination of

unemployment. I also had the chance to call at several handicraft shops where most of the workers were formerly jobless."

"In my view, Vietnam's most prominent success in the past 11 years has been in education and public health, especially in the southern provinces.

"Indeed, we also noticed many difficulties that the Vietnamese people are trying to overcome. However, we are confident that with their heroic tradition the Vietnamese people will materialize President Ho Chi Minh's last wish to see Vietnam becoming a country "10 times more beautiful."

Asked to comment on Vietnam's assistance to Kampuchea, she said that th's is "a humanitarian and well-intentioned act" particularly at a time when Vietnam is still beset with numerous difficulties left by the war.

Therefore, "there is cause for admiration, not condemnation," Marta Lopez added.

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CSO: 4200/1305

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS, TRADE, AND AID

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

HUNGARIAN RELIEF TO STORM VICTIMS--Hanoi, 8 Aug (VNA)--A ceremony was held here today to receive gifts from Hungarian mass organizations to storm victims in the central Vietnam province of Binh Tri Thien. The gifts consist of 31 tons of medicines, clothing, blankets, shoes, food and other necessities. Hungarian Charge d'Affaires A.I. to Vietnam Nyerki Jozsef made the token delivery to a local representative. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1457 GMT 8 Aug 86] /9604

CAMBODIAN SOCIAL AFFAIRS DELEGATION--Hanoi, 8 Aug (VNA)--A delegation of the Kampuchean Ministry of Social Affairs and War Invalids led by Di Phin, first vice minister, paid a working visit to Vietnam from 29 July - 7 August. The delegation signed with a delegation of the Vietnamese Ministry of Social Affairs and War Invalids an agreement on bilateral cooperation in social affairs. The Kampuchean guests were received by Song Hao, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee and minister of social affairs and war invalids. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1456 GMT 8 Aug 86] /9604

MOZAMBIQUE'S MACHEL CONGRATULATES TRUONG CHINH--Hanoi, 8 Aug (VNA)--Truong Chinh has received a message of congratulations from Samora Moises Machel, president of the Frelimo Party of Mozambique, on his election as general secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee. In his message, President Samora Moises Machel expressed his confidence that the friendship, solidarity and close cooperation between the parties, governments and peoples of Vietnam and Mozambique will further consolidate and develop for the benefit of the common front against imperialism, colonialism, racism and apartheid. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1458 GMT 8 Aug 86] /9604

GREETINGS TO SAN MARINO COMMUNIST LEADER--Hanoi, 7 Aug (VNA)--General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Central Committee Truong Chinh today sent his best wishes to Cildo Casperoni, chairman of the San Marino Communist Party, on the occasion of his 80th birthday. General Secretary Truong Chinh, in his message of greetings, wishes the San Marinese party leader good health and success in his noble mission. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1504 GMT 7 Aug 86] /9604

YOUTH DELEGATION VISIT TO LAOS--Hanoi, 7 Aug (VNA)--A delegation of the Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union led by Le Thanh Dao, secretary of the union Central Committee, paid an 8-day visit to Laos ending today. While in Laos, it had working sessions with a delegation of the Lao People's Revolutionary Youth Union led by Chaleun Yaporeu, secretary of the Lao Youth Union Central Committee. Minutes of the talks on bilateral cooperation for 1986 and for the 1986-90 period were signed on the occasion. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1505 GMT 7 Aug 86] /9604

ANGOLA CONGRATULATIONS TO TRUONG CHINH--Hanoi, 7 Aug (VNA)--General Secretary of the Communist Party of Vietnam Truong Chinh has received congratulations from Jose Eduardo dos Santos, president of the People's Republic of Angola and chairman of the People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola Workers' Party. The message wishes for the development of the friendship, solidarity and cooperation between the two parties, governments and peoples. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0707 GMT 7 Aug 86] /9604

TRUONG CHINH CONGRATULATES COLOMBIAN PRESIDENT--Hanoi, 6 Aug (VNA)--President of the State Council Truong Chinh today extended his congratulations to Virgilio Barco Vargas on his assumption of the presidency of the Republic of Colombia. The message wishes for the constant consolidation and development of the friendship between Vietnam and Colombia. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1500 GMT 6 Aug 86] /9604

HANG KENH WOOL CARPETS--Hang Kenh wool carpets have been famous in our country and a number of countries in the world for approximately 50 or 60 years. It was the first place for wool carpets in our country and, so far, still leads in amount and quality. The Hang Kenh wool carpet trade was formed and developed through two periods. During the period from approximately 1929 to 1954 in Hang Kenh there were, at the highest point, 32 looms and 403 workers and technicians. The year with the greatest output was 6,000 square meters, primarily exported to France. But it wasn't until the second period, from 1959 forward, that the Hang Kenh wool carpet trade made rapid and uniform strides in development over many facets. Thus far, there are 1,000 looms and approximately 9,000 workers and cooperative members attaining an output of 90,000 square meters of wool carpet. Exports are to the Soviet Union, the German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, etc. A number of wool carpet samples have been submitted to Canadian, Swedish, Belgian, etc., customers for approval and contracts are pending. [Excerpt] [Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 5 Jun 86 p 3] 6915

CABLE TO CEAUSESCU--To Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general: I would like to express sincere thanks for the warm congratulations you extended to me on my election as general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. I am firmly convinced that relations of friendship and cooperation between our parties and countries will continue to develop in the interests of our two peoples and of peace and socialism. With communist greetings, Truong Chinh, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam. [Text] [Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 1 Aug 86 p 5 AU] /12913

PARTY ACTIVITIES AND GOVERNMENT

VIETNAM

INTELLECTUAL DISSATISFACTION MAY SERVE USEFUL PURPOSE

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 10 Jun 86 pp 1, 4

['Contributing Opinions to the Party Congress' column by Nguyen Quoi of the Institute of Social Sciences: "Correctly Developing the Wholesome Dissatisfaction of the Intellectual"]

[Text] In the proletarian revolution and the effort to build socialism, the intellectual and the worker class are mutually agreeable in perception, confidence and action--on the basis of historic truth. Here, the political and social activism of the intellectual does not place him before antagonistic contradictions and consequently does not spawn "conflicting situations." However, the intellectual may still be placed in "problem situations." These "problem situations" are formed on the basis of non-antagonistic contradictions with insufficient conditions for complete resolution in a socialist society.

Practice has shown there are two forms of contradictions (non-antagonistic) characteristic to the "problem situations" of the intellectual. The first form, rising between the one side of social action that one must achieve, and the other side of one's political and social comprehensions and faith. This is a case, for example, when the intellectual, within the scope of his own speciality, contributes to the implementation of a social revolutionary process with an inevitable objective nature and historic truth characteristic, --such as the revolutionary process of production relations--, but the urgent norms that must be shouldered in his speciality contradict the principles he has taken as a faith and serve as a compass for his actions. The second form of contradiction, rising between the one side of deviant events and processes that occur in objective realism and the other side of ideology in a socialist and communist society in which the intellectual has awakened and achieved faith. There are for example the deviant events and processes pointed out by the resolution of the 5th Party Congress and the discovery of their causes in the "shortcomings and mistakes of party and state agencies from the central to the basic level." This is one of the factors spawning contradictions of this second form.

The intellectual is extremely sensitive to social contradictions and consequently is extremely prone to falling into "problem situations"--situations in which he is faced with contradictions and testing them within himself, and moreover, that decide the rest of his entire life, in his capacity as an intellectual, in resolving these contradictions. (Granted these are common contradictions not directly related to his material interests).

At certain times, all "problem situations" advance to dissatisfaction. Dissatisfaction is the source of a strong motive force that effectively stimulates the development of social and political activism. Dissatisfaction itself is a wholesome sign. Therefore, the problem is not one of failing to acknowledge or to suppress this attitude of wholesome dissatisfaction. The problem is in that the intellectual should not and cannot allow his dissatisfaction to develop into discontent and consequently become a reactionary force stimulating his political and social activism to spontaneously drift into a course of "opposing activism." Another more important problem is the need to successfully achieve the conversion of the intellectual's wholesome dissatisfaction into a positive factor in social development. To achieve this, the following minimum conditions are essential:

--Objective conditions: regarding society, there must be a suitable mechanism for strongly developing collective ownership right on the political and social plane. This means, on one hand, that this mechanism consists of unity in the common objectives, desires, interests and volitions of those building socialism,--including intellectuals. On the other hand, as we all know, construction with the greatest effectiveness requires not only unity but also struggle. Therefore, this mechanism must both accept and create favorable conditions for struggle within itself. Only with unity (comprising also struggle) can vigor and vitality be returned to the socialist collective ownership system. In this mechanism, the political and social activism of the intellectual --and one of its characteristic indications is wholesome dissatisfaction-- will be a positive factor and have a worthwhile position with the nature of a social development motive force.

--In subjective conditions, regarding the intellectual, if the intellectual is unable to control himself, it would be better not to have political and social activism because he could not conduct collective ownership on the political and social plane. The intellectual must practice self-restraint and self-control, especially when encountering "difficult situations." Dissatisfaction is only legitimate when it is the attitude of an involved individual originating from a specific historic viewpoint. There is nothing easier than the dissatisfaction of a bystander. It is truly unscientific to compare current reality with the concept of reality required in the distant future and then become dissatisfied. The intellectual must orient his dissatisfaction toward a theoretical foundation of simultaneous criticism and revolution to ultimately arrive at a choice, and then carry out actions of both a critical and a revolutionary nature. This process of proceeding from an attitude of wholesome dissatisfaction to simultaneous actions of criticism and revolution demands that the intellectual closely connect his actions, including the actions of criticism, with the work of the laboring people and the socialist fatherland. Legitimate criticism will not accept an attitude of empty fault finding and simple denial. Legitimate criticism is denial that approaches affirmation of the new and progressive, and encompasses proposals for a more perfect solution.

For a long time, because the two objective and subjective conditions just mentioned above have remained incomplete, the methods of expressing an attitude of dissatisfaction of a portion of the intellectuals has occasionally borne deviant forms of differing degrees. At the lowest, they are expressed in an "insomniac" state of mind--fairly common. At more deviant levels, we see appear

attitudes of unprincipled "criticism" in a style of indiscriminate statements (speaking wherever one meets them, speaking all the time, and speaking only for the reason of wishing to raise their voices in blame to alleviate their dissatisfaction); "creating" and praising political jokes; sneaking indirect and deceitful statements into books, newspapers, etc. Generally speaking, these are the simultaneously unorthodox and illegitimate forms of expression of political and social activism.

The route of properly developing the political and social activism of the intellectual must be through the perfection of factors in both the objective and subjective aspects as just noted. Only with these conditions can the political and social activism of the intellectual most realistically and fully become diverse and rich revolutionary actions at the highest level. Under these conditions, wholesome dissatisfaction --one of the forms of political and social activism-- will realistically become the actions that Karl Marx called by the fine names of "positive criticism" and "criticism with a communist nature."

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

HO CHI MINH CITY COMMERCIAL SERVICE CONDUCTS SELF-CRITICISM

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 10 Jun 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by T.Q.T.: "Self-Criticism by Commercial Service Party Committee; Production Support Concept Still Poor, Retail Sales Organization Still Has Many Shortcomings; Situation of Corruption, Bribery and Collusion with Bad Elements To Slip Goods to the Outside Still Not Overcome; Party Organization in Many Corporations and Stores Has Lost Leadership Role"]

[Text] Implementing Directive 79 of the Secretariat and the guidance plan of the Municipal Party Committee on self-criticism and criticism, the party committee of the Municipal Commercial Service has conducted self-criticism before 17 party chapters and 6 basic level party organizations in enterprises, joint store corporations, etc.

The self-criticism reports emphasized that the greatest weakness during the recent past has been that the service party committee has not yet developed a leadership role in achieving the political and economic role of the party organization. The service party committee has not done well in a thorough understanding of party line and resolution in the party organization. Especially regarding the masses (accounting for more than 92 percent of the labor force and those who are working directly in the various segments and fields of production and circulation), guidance and study have become increasingly lax. From this, the perception of many cadres and party members and the achievement of a number of locations have deviations which are not precisely in keeping with the line and viewpoint of the party.

The concept of commercial responsibility to serve production has not permeated the ideology and actions of commercial cadres. Many units lack initiative and positive action in production, and lack capital investment in production to assist in creating goods sources. The purchasing task is still burdened with delays in goods to purchase. Consequently, the volume of agricultural products and food that can be purchased in the rural areas of the city (vegetables, sugarcane, sugar, etc.) is still low. In small industry and handicraft goods, it is only possible to purchase 40 percent of the self-produced output, only about 50 percent of the norms set forth by the Resolution of the Municipal Party Congress (70 to 80 percent).

Retail sales organization also still has many shortcomings with service in many locations not originating from the interests of the consumer but still burdened with bureaucratic and administrative procedures, selling whatever goods are

available. Many units have an ideology of shirking difficulty and business in goods of low value, and their concept of responsibility to support daily living is not upheld. The business formula in a number of fresh food products has not been improved with the purpose of ensuring delivery to the hands of the consumer; and when a number of goods under state control reach the step of retail sales to the consumer, small merchants and agents raise the price. Occurrences of authoritarianism, arrogance and collusion have still not been properly overcome in a number of places.

The Commercial Service party committee is lacking in efforts to concentrate leadership on achieving organization rearrangement and management improvement to eliminate bureaucracy, red tape and state subsidization.

The task of improving economic management has not been carried out to a uniform degree in all units. A number of units are still pursuing business first, are lax in management work, worry about buying and selling, and fail to look at the results. The commercial apparatus in general and the management and organization apparatus in each corporation, store and enterprise are still cumbersome and adversely affected by the mechanism of administrative, bureaucratic and state subsidized management.

The economic mission has changed but the organization of a number of units has not been strengthened or streamlined, the functions and missions have not been applicably redefined or renewed, and relations are still greatly overlapping, leading to mutual complaints and blame between units in the party organization, between levels 2 and 3, between state-operated commerce and cooperative commerce, and between the municipal cooperative management board and the Commercial Service.

During the past few years, a number of units have applied many methods to halt and resist expressions of negativism and thanks to that, the level of negativism has been restricted in a number of locations. Generally speaking however, the situation of negativism in the party organization is still evolving in a complex manner.

Many of the party members have suffered a decline in revolutionary will, lack a spirit of responsibility, have a poor concept of organization and discipline, have a concept of lax and arbitrary compliance with directives, resolutions, systems and policies, work without efficiency or result, etc. This has consequently led to the waste and loss of property, materials and goods, in some cases to a serious degree.

The situation of corruption, bribery and collusion with bad elements to slip goods to the outside, steal, shortchange and skim has still not been overcome in many locations.

The shortcomings above are the responsibility first of all of the Party Committee Secretariat and the members of the Standing Committee of the Party Committee.

The Party Committee Secretariat has not yet fully realized the function and mission of the party committee, has been clumsy, and has not yet developed the

leadership role of the party in achieving the political mission. The Party Committee Secretariat has been lacking in reviewing and evaluating the situation of party resolution achievement in each unit, and the situation of achieving orderly organization rearrangement, simplifying the table of organization in the indirect apparatus, improving management, and eliminating bureaucracy, red tape, state subsidization and impediments in work relations and the spirit of socialist cooperation aimed at assisting the executive committee conference to reach correct decisions and evaluations to subsequently formulate resolutions and methods of achievement supervision for the future.

Members of the standing committee responsible for party work have not yet assisted the Party Committee Secretary in properly achieving the above requirements and missions.

The Director of the Commercial Service, who is also a member of the Standing Committee of the Party Committee, is the man directing every aspect of business and management activity throughout the sector but has still been too passive in administrative work.

A number of committee-level party members have been assigned responsibility for agencies but even in their own units, the achievement of party resolutions is not good and there are deviant and erroneous activities contrary to resolutions of the party.

The foremost shortcoming is that the real leadership role of party organizations from the corporation, store, etc. to the party committee has become obscure and there are even places where one must say that the party organization has lost its leadership role. The reasons are many: the quality of the party organization, the quality of the party member, the standards and abilities of party work organization in various conditions of economic leadership, working procedures, etc.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

TRADE SYSTEM DISORDER CRITICIZED

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 10 Jun 86 p 1

[Article by Tran Quang Thinh: "Quickly Adjust Our Trade System; One Seller, a Hundred Buyers, Confused Trading and Disorderly Prices"]

[Text] Last week, developing an opinion from the review and self-criticism conference of the party committee and board of directors of the Municipal Commercial Service, Fuel Corporation Director Bui Chi Trung recalled the story of "not turning one chicken into four chickens." In a family raising one chicken, the children report to the school and the wife reports to her agency. The husband reports to his enterprise and then the entire family reports to the neighborhood team. Any statistician eyeing the addition would truly laugh. Director Trung was referring to the present hectic trade situation with "goods running round and round in circles" with "frightfully deceptive data." He said, "If we counted all the firewood that the business units in the city have recorded in their trade ledgers, it would come to...500,000 stere! Actually, the amount of firewood brought into the city is very much smaller. However, because there are too many "merchants," the firewood is moved from one place to another with each move resulting in additional expenses and profits. Finally, everything is poured onto the head of the consumer.

I remember one time not long ago when I was working with Nhu Giet, Director of the Subward 21 Consumer Cooperative in Binh Thanh Ward, who put it in a more "specific" manner, "When the cooperative serves as an 'agent' for the ward corporation to obtain firewood and return it for sale at a 'reasonable price' of 9 dong a bundle, many of the working people in the hamlet shake their head and say that a 9 dong bundle of firewood bought alongside any ditch would be bigger for sure and if the cooperative sells at a higher price, why do we need the cooperative?"

Director Bui Chi Trung not only talked about the sale of goods but also greatly emphasized goods purchases and suggested that, "There should be clear annual regulations. Our control of goods is presently confused and disorderly. Anyone can control them. Our commercial organization has a level 1 (the central government), a level 2 (the city), a level 3 (the ward and district), a "level 4" (the subward and village), a "level 5" (the business cooperative?), and a "level with a level" (the enterprise, agency, school, troop unit, etc.), all of them purchasing all goods."

Sau Thien in the 11th Precinct supplied me with some even more "severe" figures. He went to a province to buy hogs and in only a brief time learned that

a full 100 (a full 100 here is not speaking facetiously but truly 100) units had come to buy. At first I didn't believe him and did so only when he took out his notebook and read it out loud. There were not only central and municipal level but also subward level cooperatives, many agencies and enterprises unrelated to the purchase of hogs, and a number of other provinces. Anyone with the "highest price" was able to purchase hogs. A high price means literally to purchase hogs at a price higher than the market along with not a few other factors: cash, materials, "palm-greasing" goods as a cushion, and so on and so on.

Within the city, what is the total number of trade units? An accurate answer is truly difficult..."The economic organizations and agencies without a business function that are presently trading on the municipal market (including agencies of the central government and those from neighboring provinces) presently amount to how many units, what units, where, and dealing in what goods? The Commerical Service and the commerical bureaus of wards and districts are unable to control them" (a review of the Commerical Service Board of Directors).

How many trade units are there in one ward? Trung, Deputy Director of the Ben Thanh Market Joint Trade Corporation, occasionally complains that, "In the Ben Thanh Market area, canned milk is sold at up to six different prices because there are six stores of six different corporations displaying and selling the product."

This roundabout and disorderly trading often leads to unusual reality: If you want sheet metal, fibro roofing and cement to stop leaks, what else do you need? You must have sesame, beans, coffee, etc. if you wish to trade. This was confided by a man in charge of a construction materials store...when the rainy season arrived.

Another example. Sugar is an item which is presently scarce and fairly high priced. Concerning this product alone in the 1st Precinct, how many trade units are hovering about each other? Actually fairly many: the Retail Sales Joint Trade Corporation, the Cooperative Joint Trade Corporation, the Food and Agricultural Products Corporation, and the Hotel Beverage Corporation (purchasing sugar), the Service Corporation (which also purchases sugar to exchange for other commodities), and the Dan Sinh Market Trade Corporation and Ben Thanh Trade Corporation, not counting the Export Goods Supply Corporation. And the sugar roster does not stop there.

Tam Phuong, in the 1st Precinct, a specialist responsible for following the activities of commerce, has emphasized the confused operations of the socialist commerce units and has stated that if the objective reasons are discounted and things continue in this manner, "How can prices help but rise and how can they be stabilized?"

A report presented it in a more specific manner. Nearly one-third of the business volume of the commercial units in the 1st Precinct is wholesale (about 600 million new dong). Due to purchase and resale, this business volume for the most part rises although the volume of goods never reaches the same level. Because every unit establishes a "commodity fund for exchange," every unit has the "right to buy and sell anything, and to trade anywhere." Prices: Agreeable! Method of payment: Cash!

The 1st Precinct Retail Sales Joint Trade Corporation purchased more than 1 ton of ky nam incense from the "3d Precinct Occupational Training Center" and then sold it immediately to the 1st Precinct Export Goods Supply Corporation (the goods value was 6 million dong). Neither the buyer nor the seller had this function. The source of the goods is a problem increasingly worthy of bringing up for questioning.

The 1st Precinct Cooperative Trade Corporation sold soybeans to Hon Dat District in Kien Giang Province, acquired 55 TV-phonograph sets, exchanged 250 tons of green beans for an automobile and monosodium glutamate, exchanged 30,000 meters of cloth for 42 tons of coffee, and engaged in many other similar commercial transactions.

The Dan Sinh Market Joint Trade Corporation purchased cement from Thu Duc District, Phu Nhuan Ward and the 5th Precinct, one location buying 600 bags at one time and then selling them back to the 5th, 11th and 10th precincts and Long An Province, another location selling 300 bags at one time. Corn, sesame, coffee, cigarettes, etc. were purchased. The Subward 12 Consumer Cooperative in the 1st Precinct purchased up to 3,273 tubes of toothpaste.

The 1st Precinct Service Corporation bought 300 export bicycles and sold 50 of them at one time to Hoa Thanh District in Tay Ninh Province, exchanged 21,800 meters of cloth for electric attachments from Lam Dong Province and light bulbs from Tien Giang Province, and even exchanged 5,882 kilograms of sugar (where did it come from?) for other goods from the Song Hau State Farm.

The 1st Precinct Fuel Store, in order to obtain firewood, had to trade 50,000 liters of kerosene, 20 tons of urea fertilizer and 10,000 bottles of beer.

The point requiring attention is that the buying, selling and trading above was often conducted with no contract. Even when there are contracts, the price recorded in the contract, the payment price and the price on the ledger all differ. Some of the contracts have the seals and signatures of the ward people's committee but no one manages the contract which is primarily to facilitate movement of the goods.

It is truly superfluous to state that it is necessary to quickly formulate regulations on the business functions and missions of each specific unit: who is permitted to buy and sell what goods to whom, trade locations and sources of goods that may be bought and sold, prices, formulas of payment, etc. If not, as the Director of the Commercial Service emphasized, "Business organization has greatly come undone in a number of precincts, functions and missions have overlapped, there is trade competition dissension, and prices are in disorder.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

1ST PRECINCT REDUCING TRADE PERMIT RED TAPE

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 10 May 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by T.Th: "Overcoming the Bureaucratism Causing Many Complications, 1st Precinct: Requests for Opening Production Unit Reduced from 12 to 1 Stamp"]

[Text] Implementing an immediate adjustment in the still bureaucratic work approach, the 1st Precinct recently improved the procedure of issuing production and business permits to collectives and individuals. The Standing Committee of the Precinct Party Committee assigned responsibility to the 1st Precinct Industrial Bureau and Federation of Handicraft Industry Cooperatives to examine the production and business permit requests of basic units in order to achieve a general project in the industrial-small industry and handicraft sector; and after that, transferred the requests directly to the vice chairman of the committee responsible for production for approval and a decision. By this method, the period of time required for approving and issuing a production business permit has been reduced from 1 month to 2 days, and thanks to a reduction in the number of examination steps, only one stamp is now required instead of the previous 12 (because the precinct previously had a Business Registration Council with many components such as the Tax Bureau, Industrial Bureau, Transformation Committee, Federation of Handicraft Industry Cooperatives, Public Security, etc., the issuance of permits required many unnecessary steps).

Thanks to the improved procedures in the issuance of business production permits, during only half of last month, the 1st Precinct issued production and business permits to 60 collective and individual units. Implementing Decision 34 of the Municipal People's Committee, the 1st Precinct is allowing the subwards to approve and issue family secondary production permits to the families of cadres, workers, civil servants and cooperative members.

At the present time, the Standing Committee of the 1st Precinct People's Committee is continuing study to reduce repetitious and unnecessary procedures in the signing of economic contracts.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

RETAIL SALES AGENT SYSTEM GROWS STEADILY WEAKER

Ho Chi Minh City SAIGON GIAI PHONG in Vietnamese 10 May 86 pp 1, 4

[Article by D.T.-P.T.-Q.V.: "Why Have the Activities of Sector Retail Sales Agents Become Increasingly Weaker?; Lack of Goods, Low Commissions, Inconsistent Trade Procedures and Goods Distribution Methods; Some Methods To "Nurture" and Guide Business Retail Agents in the Right Direction"]

[Text] To this time, the cooperative trade sector has been able to organize more than 2,000 retail sales agents at the basic level. This is a strong point and at the same time a position of strength of this collective economic organization, motivating the laboring people to join the cooperative labor sector in distributing goods all the way to the consumer in accordance with the formula of "the state and the people working together." The majority of retail sales agents are from poor and welfare families--chosen by the organizations, subwards and villages--who have contributed tens of thousands of square meters of business space and large amounts of business equipment (stands, cabinets, shelves, etc.) to competently assist in expanding the retail sales network of socialist trade. The positive aspect easiest to recognize in the retail sales agents is their flexible service (selling goods in the hamlet quarters, selling regardless of the time, selling in accordance with small requirements from needles, thread, cakes of soap, etc. to essential goods to the people). In short, the retail sales agent is a proper and dynamic business formula and a capable assistant of socialist trade in goods distribution. Nevertheless, the retail sales agent network of the cooperative trade sector is presently weakening to an alarming degree (incomes are low, many have abandoned their agent work, negativism in the sales step is increasingly developing, etc.). Along with the objective difficulties springing from the development of erroneous price-wage-money policies, there are also other reasons that we must dissect to clarify the problem and find methods of solution.

We visited more than 20 retail sales agents in many precincts and districts (2 in the 1st Precinct; 7 in the 3d Precinct; 3 in the 4th Precinct; 2 in the 5th Precinct; 2 in the 11th Precinct; 2 in Thu Duc District; and 3 in Nha Be District), and initially made the general observation that the income of the agents was extremely low. Of the total number of retail sales agents above, only 20 percent had a monthly income over 1,000 dong (an average month, not during the month of the lunar new year), 20 percent earned from 500 to 1,000 dong, and 60 percent received under 500 dong. The sales volume of retail sales agents comprises only an extremely small proportion of the total retail sales business of each consumer cooperative (subward) or each market cooperative

(village). Specifically, in the consumer cooperative of Subward 9 in the 5th Precinct, the subward with the second largest network of retail sales agents in the precinct, the monthly business volume of these agents comprises only 2 to 3 percent of the total sales of the subward consumer cooperative. Many other locations are the same. Why does this situation exist? First of all, because of a shortage of goods, price entanglements, a shortage of cash, and difficulties in the marketing formula. However, worth mentioning here is that even during the years when goods are available, inconsistent distribution has a direct adverse effect on the business of retail sales agents. We recall before when the city had a decision forbidding subward consumer cooperatives and village marketing cooperatives to engage in long-distance trading and assigned responsibility to level 2 (municipal) and level 3 (precinct and district) corporations to supply goods to the subwards and villages for retail sales in the populated areas, all of the consumer and marketing cooperatives relied on goods supplied from above. In the cooperative trade sector, the city assigned specific norms to precinct and district cooperative trade corporations to supply 50 percent of goods sold to the subwards and villages. However, this norm has still not been achieved to this time. The deputy director for marketing of the Thu Duc Town marketing cooperative stated that the district cooperative trade corporation "only supplied 20 percent of all the goods sold by the cooperative" and therefore, there was an "extreme shortage of goods for the 10 retail sales agents in the town." The deputy director for business of the Subward 16 consumer cooperative in the 5th Precinct also confirmed that the goods provided by the precinct cooperative were "too few, accounting for only 20 percent, and steadily declining." It is estimated that with a rate of supply to the subwards and villages of about 30 percent, the precinct and district cooperatives have not concentrated their efforts to supply goods to the basic level in accordance with the policy of the city. A problem here requiring examination is that the precinct and district cooperative trade corporations have opened many retail sales points (each corporation has from 30 to 60 points), competing in retail sales with the subward and village. Many marketing and consumer cooperative directors have asked us, "Who is selling wholesale? Who is selling retail? If the precinct and district corporations open too many retail sales points, where will the goods come from to supply the subward? We think this is a problem in the business mechanism that must be examined for satisfactory resolution."

There are few goods and the discounts for subwards and villages are too low so when they assign retail sales agents, the commission level for those agents is increasingly lower. The chief accountant of the Subward 12 consumer cooperative in the 1st Precinct and the deputy director of the Subward 23 consumer cooperative in the 3d Precinct told us that, concerning industrial goods supplied by municipal or precinct level corporations, subwards receive a discount of only .5 to 3 percent (meaning a profit of only 5 hao to 3 dong per 100 dong). That is not counting the cost of packaging and loading which the cooperative must pay, including any shortages. Therefore, when delivering goods to retail sales agents, many subwards must concede the small amount of profit to them, sell only at the original price, and suffer a loss in the business activities of the subward.

To have goods to supply the retail sales points and agents, consumer and marketing cooperatives must spend much more time in the self-pursuit of goods.

Privately produced goods of the subward and village are presently estimated to comprise about 50 percent of the total. This is also a method in which the consumer and marketing cooperatives "nurture" retail sales agents but it has definite shortcomings. Due to the different purchasing sources, cooperatives supply goods to the retail sales agents at different prices and subsequently, a situation occurs in which the same product is sold by retail sales agents at different prices. Even more worth noting is that in the relations between the retail sales agents and the subward consumer cooperative and the village marketing cooperative, there are many entanglements and unresolved problems: there are many types of goods that sell slowly that the cooperative "drives" down to the agent. At the location of an agent of the Subward 13 consumer cooperative in the 4th Precinct at 251 Doan Nhu Hai Street, we saw for sale large amounts of wine (an invoice indicated that 100 bottles has been received on 30 March), a product selling very slowly in the sector. The retail sales agent at 19 Ba Huyen Thanh Quan Street in Subward 11 of the 3d Precinct lamented that "there is a shortage of those goods that the consumers use a great deal such as family necessities, student notebooks, duck eggs, etc." It is also necessary to tell about the losses that retail agents must bear such as repetitious administrative procedures. The retail sales agent in Hamlet 1 of Phu My Village in Nha Be District complained that "his monthly income is only about 50 to 70 dong and he must regularly submit sales reports and money to the village marketing cooperative (losing 2 dong each trip to and from); and if he has to go 10 times a month, the profit remaining is not much. There is also the matter of hamlet quarters buying short and submitting his own money to the cooperative at the fixed time." An individual serving as a retail sales agent for the consumer cooperative of Subward 11 in the 3d Precinct stated that he had to endure great loss due to poor and damaged goods. Recently, this agent received two containers of laundry soap (each containing 20 boxes) but when unpacked, 10 boxes were broken, could not be sold, and had to be used at home or given (advertised) to friends and the losses endured. He also received 200 category 2 PS cream sticks for sale at 40 dong per stick but had previously received them at a price of 42 dong per stick. Unable to sell two cream sticks at two prices, he was forced to take a loss on the old lot of PS cream and sell them at 40 dong per stick (with a loss of 2 dong per stick).

Due to the shortage of goods and in order to have an income to ensure family living standards, many retail sales agents have "burst out" into private enterprise. In some places, the privately handled goods of the retail sales agents are reported to the cooperatives and in some they are not with self-purchasing and self-selling like the December display shop of a private operator. On a visit to the retail sales agent at 0204A Xom Chieu Street of the cooperative trade joint corporation in the 4th Precinct, we noticed that 80 percent of the retail goods were self-purchased (sugar, milk, Soviet laundry soap, powdered soap, etc., all from cadres, workers and civil servants who did not use them and brought them in for resale). The agent reasoned, "Putting up a sign that you are acting as an agent but not having goods to sell is strange so it is necessary to buy additional goods for sale." There are many kinds of goods without a price list. The agent in Sector 3 of Subward 21 in the 3d Precinct said, "Because the people have requested it, I must buy additional bean curd, powdered soap, liquid soap, hand soap, toilet paper, soybean sauce, etc. for sale." In short, most the retail sales agents must buy additional goods to sell. Many consider the retail sales agent as a type of "family secondary economy," and not a primary source of income.

The actual facts above prove that the activities of the retail sales agents in the various sectors is weakening at an alarming rate. We wish to present several suggestions to assist in strengthening them:

--Reexamine the proportion of wholesale and retail sales of the precinct and district cooperative trade corporations; priority must be given to the accumulation of goods for the subwards so they may properly support retail sales agents in the populated areas. The various types of essential goods with excessively low discounts may possibly have those discounts given to the subward (such as that being done by the 3d Precinct cooperative joint corporation).

--Suitable discount and commission levels must be recalculated for the retail sales agents in order to ensure them a relatively full life.

--Carefully study the preferences of the people in each populated area in order to supply suitable goods and avoid a situation of stagnant capital; without "driving" sluggish and slow selling goods to the retail sales agent; and without irrationally forcing the retail sales agent to bear losses due to depletion and damage.

--There must be many methods to maintain the existence of the retail sales agent system in its original form, not simply pretending on the outside while buying and selling like a private operator on the inside, causing losses to the consumer and deviating from the orbit of socialist business.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

VIETNAM

NEW ECONOMIC ZONE BUILT IN TAY NINH PROVINCE FOR 52,000 PEOPLE

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN In Vietnamese 2 Jun 86 pp 1,4

[Article: "52,000 Tay Ninh Citizens Build New Economic Zone"]

[Text] VNA-Thur 14, Tay Ninh Province has completed building 10 new economic villages, creating advantages for 52,000 Tay Ninh citizens to stabilize daily life and expand production. Virtually all the new economic villages in Tay Ninh have grain contributed to the state. Many new economic villages are emerging forward to become the province's standard bearer, such as Phu Duc Village (Chau Thanh District), a labor hero unit.

Tay Ninh Province has invested tens of millions of dong in building medical aid stations, schools, and other public welfare programs to help families settling in the new homeland to quickly stabilize life and production, and has sent healthy children to the new homeland to clear land and build the material base to advance of the arrival of families, thereby avoiding upsetting the people's lives. In 1986 alone, Tay Ninh sent almost 10,000 people to build the new economy in rubber state farms, agricultural state farms, and state forests.

Drawing experience from things done and undone, Tay Ninh will in the coming period uniformly coordinate measures and even more satisfactorily make arrangements for 40,000 people in towns and cities to go build new economic zones with a view toward redistributing labor rationally on the province's territory (especially in key zones, the border, and old revolutionary bases), exploiting the potential of labor and land, and coordinating economic construction with national defense.

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ECONOMIC PLANNING, TRADE, AND FINANCE

BRIEFS

360 DISTRICTS COMPLETE SURVEY--Hanoi, 8 Aug (VNA)--Three hundred and sixty districts, accounting for 85 percent of the total in the country, have completed their overall socio-economic survey and planning. The surveys are focused on the land and other national resources, the workforce, traditional crafts, technical standard... [ellipses as received] of each district, the intermediary administrative unit between province and village. The current five-year plan calls for making the district not only an administrative unit but also a level for economic planning and management. Following the overall survey, many districts have drawn up the developmental programs for different branches industry, forestry, such as agriculture, forestry, fishery, electricity, water conservancy, labour, and communications and transport. [sentence as received] [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1453 GMT 8 Aug 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/1305

AGRICULTURE

RECENT NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON DIKE PROTECTION

BK061401 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 31 Jul 86

[NHAN DAN 1 August Editorial: "Promptly Draw on Experience to Urgently Protect Dikes"]

[Text] Over the past several days flash floods have abruptly filled most of the rivers in Northern Vietnam. The water levels, coupled with the high tide period, overflowed several river banks, thus causing waterlogging in ricefields and making anti-flash flood work more urgent and complicated.

Coping with natural calamity, strengthening dikes and canals, and protecting production and the people's lives and properties are all pressing tasks of localities dotted with dikes, dams, and rivers. People in these localities bravely and staunchly fought against the floods over the past several days, especially along river banks and at key construction sites. Many leading cadres of cities, provinces, districts, and villages were present in these areas days and nights to directly supervise anti-flood work. Many sectors promptly switched to helping control flash floods. They helped move goods from warehouses and provided assistance to people in the flood-stricken areas. Many enterprises, state farms, and organizations have bravely contributed to fighting natural calamity by protecting machines, equipment, and material while maintaining production. Many armed forces units and public security forces have been mobilized to various sites of weak dikes and dams to strengthen and repair them with the assistance of the local assault force and people. They worked selflessly and showed their readiness to protect the people's lives and properties while striving to maintain social order and safety.

The struggle against natural calamity over the past few days demonstrates the revolutionary heroism of our people, army, and the public security force. Our party cadres, members, and combatants have showed their revolutionary ethics, endured hardship, overcame difficulties, and patiently helped the people and saved ricefields, thereby helping our peasants overcome natural calamity and stabilize their daily lives.

Throughout this ordeal, our party cadres and members have demonstrated in a lively manner fine character and a high sense of responsibility toward the people. They have always stayed close to the people, served the people, and fought for the people.

In some localities, however, due to their subjective leadership, tasks on strengthening dikes were carried out carelessly, patrolling and guarding were conducted loosely, while inspection work was performed impatiently. As a result, when attacked by flash floods they were in a state of confusion and passivity. Facing acute difficulties, cadres in some localities showed their irresponsibility. They could not develop the combined strengths to promptly cope with the situation, thus causing damages to dikes and dams.

The water levels are receding slowly and remaining high in various rivers while adverse weather conditions prevail. Anti-flash flood work is still very urgent. Localities and units must promptly draw on experience and stand in readiness throughout the several-month monsoon season. They must satisfactorily prepare manpower and essential materials to cope with all circumstances to effectively protect dikes and dams. It is imperative for them to inspect canals under dikes, cracked and low lying dikes, as well as weak and collapsed dikes in order to promptly formulate plans to protect dikes and dams using local manpower. They must positively carry out guarding and inspection work, promptly discover cracks in dikes, and repair them immediately, thus effectively protecting dikes and dams. Assault forces and technical cadres with experience and skills must be available with their essential equipment at various weak dikes. A division of work among leading cadres must be rationally designed to ensure a 24-hour supervisory service. In areas with collapsed dikes, leading cadres must promptly help stabilize the people's daily life, protect their properties, and ensure their good health. They must take prompt and rational measures to restore production when water levels recede. Rice planting must be carried out urgently when river levels are high. Each locality must protect and accelerate production while strengthening dikes, draining those waterlogged, and mobilizing manpower to fulfill rice planting schedules.

Tasks on flood and typhoon control must be carried out urgently, consistently, and carefully. All party organizations and echelons of the administration must enhance their sense of responsibility, promptly draw on experience, overcome all difficulties, and urgently strengthen dikes and dams, thereby protecting production and stabilizing the people's daily life.

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CSO: 4209/748

AGRICULTURE

HANOI'S RECOVERY EFFORTS AFTER FLASH FLOOD NOTED

OW090825 Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 7 Aug 86

[Text] The recent early flash flood, which came down from mountain areas, caused flooding of many river villages in Hanoi suburban areas.

Suburban districts and cities promptly organized assistance to the areas stricken by flooding and flash floods to help them in their livelihoods and in overcoming the consequences of the flooding. Thirteen cooperatives not affected by the flooding in Phuc Tho District, sister cooperatives of the nine flooded cooperatives, welcomed nearly 20,000 victims and helped them in their livelihoods and daily activities. They have donated nearly 10 tons of food so that the victims will have enough food for the immediate future.

Son Tay City authorities sent nearly 30 trucks to the flooded areas in Phuc Tho District in order to transport buffalo and cattle to safe areas and take care of them there. The Hanoi Agricultural Service directed the cooperatives that still have rice seedlings in reserve to tend them well in order to help the flooded cooperatives restore production. It also sent 50 tons of Moc Tuyen rice seeds, 50 tons of nitrogenous fertilizer, and 50 tons of feed to help the flooded cooperatives restore production quickly.

Along with providing mutual assistance in surmounting the consequences of flooding and flash floods Hanoi Municipality's precincts and districts intensified their workforces and sent more materials to dike sections to rapidly handle damaged spots and oozing holes, ready to cope with new flash floods.

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CSO: 4209/748

AGRICULTURE

TAN MOC AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVE PROGRESS

OW100749 Hanoi VNA in English 0700 GMT 10 Aug 86

[Text] Hanoi, 10 Aug (VNA)--Tan Moc agricultural cooperative in Ha Bac Province, north of Hanoi, has made rapid progress in production thanks to appropriate changes in the structure of its crops.

The co-op has 4,870 hectares of cultivated land of which only 300 ha are planted with rice. The rest consists of hilly lands which in the past were grown chiefly with soybean which, though more resistant to dryness, gave very low yields, about 500 kg per hectare. The co-op has decided to transfer soybean to the low lands where it is rotated with rice, and to devote all the hilly lands to other industrial crops. A new strain of soybean dubbed V74 has yielded 0.9-1.4 tons per ha, nearly three times as much as the old strain. The rotation of soybean with rice has also provided a natural fertilizer to increase rice productivity.

In recent years, Tan Moc has reaped from 180 to 350 tons of soybeans yearly and 610 kg of rice per head of population, double the national average.

In addition to soybean, Tan Moc has begun to grow sugarcane and build its own sugar processing industry. Last year, it produced 320 kg of brown sugar per capita.

Ly Loi Sang of the Kzao ethnic minority, chairman of Tan Moc cooperative, has newly been decorated "labour hero" by the Council of State.

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CSO: 4200/1305

AGRICULTURE

BRIEFS

HO CHI MINH CITY DAIRY BREEDING--Hanoi, 8 Aug (VNA)--Ho Chi Minh City has obtained initial results in converting its present herd of 50,000 dairy cattle into milk cows. Over the past years, the city has successfully crossbred native cows with bulls of foreign breeds, creating a strong hybrid that is easy to milk. This hybrid was then crossbred with bulls of exotic milk breeds, which produced good milk cows. So far, the city has had more than 1,000 milk cows crossbred between native cows and Holstein-Frisian bulls. Some 400 of the crossbred are giving from 2,000-3,000 or almost 4,000 liters each in one milking session. To increase the herd of dairy cattle, the city has marked off 100 hectares of pasture to plant high-yielding varieties of foreign grass. Many households specializing in keeping dairy cows have also made use of their gardens and road sides to grow grass for cattle. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0703 GMT 8 Aug 86] /9604

HAU GIANG COCONUT ACREAGE--Hanoi, 6 Aug (VNA)--The Mekong River Delta province of Hau Giang has now 20,000 ha of coconut palms which yield 1.4 million coconuts annually. To expand the area under coconut to 40,000 ha by 1990, the province has set up five coconut corporations to build state-owned coconut farms and to help the local people grow more coconut trees. In the first half of this year, the province planted 2,300 more hectares of coconuts. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0724 GMT 6 Aug 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/1305

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

VIETNAM

INCREASE IN STONE, BRICK, TILE PRODUCTION REPORTED

Haiphong HAI PHONG in Vietnamese 4 Apr 86 pp 1, 4

[Text] In the first 3 months of 1986, the Minh Duc stone enterprise dug out 30,027 cubic meters of stone of various kinds, fulfilling the first-quarter plan and achieving an increase of 5,000 cubic meters over the same period in 1985. Stone output in March rose to 11,000 cubic meters, representing a 30 percent increase over the average output in each of the first 3 months of this year.

The enterprise convened a conference of workers and civil servants to step up the emulation movement for productive labor and to create conditions for all units and teams to achieve the planned stone output. The enterprise has intensified its economic relationships with friendly agencies and units in order to obtain additional oil to run generators and air pressure machines used to drill and excavate rocks. In addition to digging out stone, the enterprise has paid attention to maintaining industrial sanitation while collecting all rocks, clearing up the level ground, and opening roads leading to fields to dig out stone and carry it away.

Since the beginning of this year, despite an insufficient and belated supply of cement and steel, the Thong Nhat tile enterprise (belonging to the federation of building material production and trading enterprises) has exercised its right to take the initiative to form economic associations with many other units in order to obtain their assistance in overcoming difficulties and to receive additional material supplies necessary for production, thus providing jobs for laborers and yielding products to meet the construction needs of the city.

In the first quarter, the enterprise produced 101,713 bricks and 2,187 meters of drain pipes, showing an increase of 2 to 35 percent over the first quarter of 1985. Improved cement tiles are a new product of the enterprise and have been awarded the silver medal at the second exhibition of Vietnamese economic and technical achievements; these tiles have been mass-produced according to plan. In the past 3 months, the enterprise has produced nearly 91,000 improved cement tiles equivalent to 122 percent of the plan norm for the first quarter of 1986.

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CSO: 4209/608

HEAVY INDUSTRY AND CONSTRUCTION

VIETNAM

ENTERPRISE BUILDS FIRST TWO CEMENT TRUCKS

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 6 Jun 86 p 2

[Article by Tran Chau Thao: "First Time Cement Truck is Built"]

[Text] The Hanoi Electromechanical Projects Enterprise has just successfully built two specialized tank trucks for hauling loose cement. They were built similar to a foreign model. This is the first instance in our country of this type of vehicle being built.

This type of tank truck is capable of carrying 8 tons of cement, in 20 minutes can dump all the cement in the tank truck to heights of 20 to 30 meters, and meets the requirement to putting cement into temporary storage facilities, or concrete mixer having openings for feeding raw materials at heights of more than 20 meters. In the truck's structure there are two types of equipment that are fairly hard to manufacture. These are the air compressor which must ensure a pressure of more than 300 cubic meters an hour and the system of oscillating diaphragms placed in the tank which both withstands pressure when compressed air is introduced and which withstands the huge weight of the cement, ensuring it is loose and porous when dumping. The oscillating diaphragm is a special type of "cloth" woven with synthetic fibers and treated chemically to ensure a strength and durability of exact standard.

Engineer Cao Van Son, deputy director of the enterprise and chief of the project, together with the technical cadres of the enterprise strived with the help of units from the communications and construction sectors, the food industry, the chemical industry, and the weaving industry to satisfactorily complete the manufacturing and installation design requirements, make revisions, and ensure that the features equaled vehicles from abroad.

The enterprise is attempting to build 20 of these tank trucks to serve the construction sector and is undertaking associated work so as to possibly begin large-scale production to support cement transportation requirements.

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LIGHT INDUSTRY

VNA VIEWS PROGRESS IN SERICULTURE INDUSTRY

OW090801 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 9 Aug 86

[Text] Hanoi, 9 Aug (VNA)--Sericulture, a traditional trade in Vietnam has obtained good results in scientific research and production in the past few years.

Established last August, the Union of Mulberry Silkworm Breeding Enterprises included 12 units. Thanks to its favourable climatic conditions, the biggest sericultural enterprise was built in Bao Loc District in the central highland province of Lam Dong. It has seven satellite workshops specialising in producing silkworm breeds, planting mulberry trees, rearing silkworms and spinning raw-silk.

The Union of Mulberry Silkworm Breeding Enterprises has also produced supplied mulberry varieties, silkworm breeds, materials and equipment for sericultural farms across the country. It has so far planted 1,000 hectares of mulberry as against 140 hectares in the first year after liberation (1975) and produced 40 tons of raw silk. The 1986 plan provides for 20 tons of raw silk.

With the technical assistance from the colleges of Ho Chi Minh City, the sericultural industry has conducted 31 scientific research projects involving mulberry strains and the hybridization of high-yield silkworms suitable for the weather conditions in southern provinces, the use of weaving and spinning machines. The Vietnam-USSR joint sericultural station in Bao Loc District in the past 2 years has crossbred many new, high-yield mulberry and silkworm varieties with the local breeds, studied the measures against crop diseases, raw silk spinning technique and sericultural mechanization.

Under the 1986-90 five-year plan, the sericultural service will plant 5,000 hectares of mulberry, averaging 70 kilos of raw silk per hectare to produce more high quality items for export.

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CSO: 4200/1305

LABOR

YOUNG LABOR VOLUNTEERS PRODUCTIVITY DETAILED

OW080843 Hanoi VNA in English 0710 GMT 8 Aug 86

[Text] Hanoi, 8 Aug (VNA)--Ho Chi Minh City now has 23 units of the young labour volunteers comprising 8,500 workhands to cultivate 85,000 hectares of land.

Each year, they produce tens of thousands of cubic meters of timber, thousands of tons of paper pulp, hundreds of tons of crystal sugar, millions of bricks and tiles, with an export value running into the millions of roubles.

The youngsters' main job has been to reclaim waste land, unload goods at the Saigon port, dig irrigation canals, and build other irrigations projects. They account for the larger part of the workforce at the Tri An hydro-electric power plant, the biggest of its kind in southern Vietnam to be commissioned in 1987. Today, their capital has increased five-fold compared with the initial investment of the state. Their average salary is higher than that of a public servant because they are independent accounting units. This is an impressive achievement if one remembers that they received only 3 months' pay when they were organized 10 years ago, and in the following years, only 6 months' pay.

The young volunteers force was set up soon after the liberation of South Vietnam aimed primarily at helping the young jobless people and other sections of the youth in Saigon and other southern cities to take an active part in national reconstruction. Over the years, most of them have matured ideologically and professionally. Many have become skilled workers, economic managers, intellectuals or scientists. They are volunteers in the sense that they accepted the most difficult jobs at the most unsalutary places, reclaiming lands in areas denuded by U.S. defoliants, building afforestation farms, growing food and cash crops such as sugarcane and coconut. In 1985, their coconut plantations yielded six times more than in 1981 in terms of output value.

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CSO: 4200/1305

LABOR

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN--In the past, a weaving mill usually hired female workers. But recently its 100 new workers were all men, although female applicants were of working age and met all criteria required of a weaver. Currently, many enterprises, building projects, and organs are "reluctant" to hire female laborers. This causes quite a few families to worry about the future of their daughters in particular, and of young women in general. It is hoped that labor organs will promptly formulate a policy ensuring a woman's legitimate right to labor in our society. And it is most urgent to issue an employment policy that strikes a balance between men and women in all production sectors, organs, and factories. Female laborers in organs and enterprises can do well politically and professionally if they receive adequate health care. We should pay attention to population work, encourage birth control, and properly protect mothers and children--and not grant countless maternity and sick leaves. [Article by Hoang Vi, Ha Nam Ninh] [Text] [Hanoi NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 15 Apr 86 p 2] 9213/6662

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS--Hanoi, 7 Aug (VNA)--The Ho Chi Minh Communist Youth Union has since early this year, undertaken 18,427 development projects. Most of these projects are in Hanoi, the central Vietnam provinces of Quang Nam-Danang and Nghe Tinh, the northern provinces of Quang Ninh and Ha Nam Ninh and the Mekong River Delta province of Hau Giang. In particular, the youth of Hai Hung Province, 50 km east of Hanoi, is taking charge of 153 projects of high economic value. Most projects are designed to save fuel and materials, and restore wornout machines. The youth in the northern border provinces has concentrated on projects in service of national defense, such as building roads to the forward positions by the youth in Lang Son and Quang Ninh. In the southern provinces, the youth projects mainly consist of irrigation works, land reclamation and rural roads. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0730 GMT 7 Aug 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/1305

HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

VIETNAM

BRIEFS

PARTY, STATE GROUP VISITS--Hanoi, 28 Jul (VNA)--A party and state delegation led by Nguyen Ngoc Triu, member of the Communist Party of Vietnam central committee and minister of agriculture, has paid a visit to Lang Son, a northern province hit hard by the storm Peggy. Minister Nguyen Ngoc Triu conveyed the party and the state's sympathy to the people of Lang Son, and discussed with provincial officials measures to overcome difficulties and normalize the people's life. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1551 GMT 28 Jul 86 OW] /9738

NGUYEN DINH TU AT WORKSHOP--Hanoi VNA 31 Jul--A workshop on higher education was recently held here by the Ministry of Secondary Vocational and Higher Education in the presence of Minister Nguyen Dinh Tu and representatives of the universities, colleges and secondary vocational schools in the northern part of the country. The 3-day workshop reviewed the work of the 1985-86 school year and discussed measures to improve the quality of teaching and studying in the next school year. It was recalled that besides teaching and studying, the universities and colleges in 1985 undertook 200 projects of scientific research of ministerial level and 150 projects of state level. Speaking at the meeting, Minister Nguyen Dinh Tu expressed his high appreciation of the efforts and achievements made by both lecturers and students in the 1985-86 school year. He called on them to try harder to fulfill their task in the next school year. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 0718 GMT 31 Jul 86 OW] 12228

YOUTHS TAKE AGRICULTURAL COURSES--Hanoi, 7 Aug (VNA)--Over the past few years, 30,000 young people from various parts of the country have attended courses on techniques of agricultural production. In Ho Chi Minh City, 3,000 youths have been graduated from middle-level courses on tree protection. Courses on intensive farming have been opened for young people in the port city of Haiphong and Ha Nam Ninh Province, south of Hanoi. As a result, the movement for preparing organic fertilizers has been stepped up in many districts. In the recent spring-summer rice crop, the youth in Thai Binh Province covered 50,000 ha with azolla pinnata, a genus of minute water fern used as green fertilizer, accounting for 60 percent of the province's rice acreage. Meanwhile, the youth in the province of Nghe Tinh prepared 32,000 tons of compost and put 20,000 hectares under azolla pinnata cultivation. [Text] [Hanoi VNA in English 1501 GMT 7 Aug 86] /9604

CSO: 4200/1305

POPULATION, CUSTOMS, AND CULTURE

VIETNAM

POPULATION REDISTRIBUTION IN HA NAM NINH DESCRIBED

Hanoi QUAN DOI NHAN DAN in Vietnamese 26 Jun 86 p 3

[Article by Hoa Phong]

[Text] Ha Nam Ninh is one of the provinces with a low ratio of paddy land to population (still less than 2 sao per person). In spite of this, 230 children are born daily in Ha Nam Ninh, which amounts to a yearly population increase of 80,000-90,000 (equal to the population of an average district in the province). Since the 1960's, Ha Nam Ninh has been one of the provinces that are conducting active drives to relocate population and establish new communities.

Over the past 25 years (1960-1985), Ha Nam Ninh has relocated 64,176 families, 450,427 individuals, and 163,795 workers, including 14,650 scientific and technical cadres. In the past 10 years, the people of Ha Nam Ninh who went out to establish new communities participated in constructing 28 state farms and forests, enterprises, stations, and farms, establishing 156 independent agricultural cooperatives and attached production collectives, supplementing 380 cooperatives, clearing 95,720 hectares to plant rubber, coffee, tea, industrial crops, medicinal plants, and grains, and excavating more than 10 million cubic meters of earth and rock to construct communications routes and water conservancy projects and improve fields. At these new communities, the Ha Nam Ninh people contributed efforts and possessions to build 160 medical aid stations, 180 schools, 340 kindergartens, 120 offices for cooperatives and people's committees, and 107 marketing cooperative stores, which made life in these new areas more and more bustling and happy. The standard of living improved for people more and more each day; after a short period, the majority of people had a better standard of living than they had had in their old communities.

Over the past 25 years Ha Nam Ninh relocated 450,000 people to new areas, but there have been 1.5 million births. This situation places Ha Nam Ninh in a critical state for arranging jobs for workers.

In the spirit of Central Committee resolutions, Ha Nam Ninh released Resolution 36 of the provincial party organization, which considers labor distribution the strategically critical task in the 1986-1990 plan, with the

goal of relocating 600,000 persons to build new economic areas, mainly in the Central Highlands.

In order to meet this strategic goal, Ha Nam Ninh concentrated on preparing sites and organizing selections, so that persons could be moved during the first quarter and first days of 1986. Two groups of province cadres and key cadres of 11 districts went to work directly with Gia Lai-Kon Tum, Dac Lac, and Lam Dong, the provinces that would be receiving arrivals, in order to agree on planning norms for quantity, labor structure, and time for people to be brought in during 1986 and successive years. Ha Nam Ninh Province requisitioned cadres from the districts to form seven planning teams, of three to five persons each, to conduct research and planning, along with cadres and workers in districts that would receive new arrivals, for the construction of new villages and cooperatives and to accelerate site preparation and preparation of the material base to welcome the new arrivals.

To facilitate close cooperation between the districts of the province and recipient provinces and districts and to enable synchronized coordination between sectors (labor, communications and transportation, trade, etc.) and levels (leadership of the central echelon with respect to local levels), in the 1st quarter of 1986, Ha Nam Ninh relocated 11,550 persons to new economic zones (primarily in the Central Highlands). In terms of the number of people relocated, the labor structure observed, and the way selection and transport were performed, the drive received a good rating in many districts: Gia Vien, Nam Ninh, Hai Hau, Xuan Thuy, Duy Tien, Kim Bang, Thanh Liem.

Gia Vien is a district in which nearly 20 villages held a drive for citizens to voluntarily apply for relocation to establish new communities. There were days on which the labor bureau received applications from 200 families to go, in contrast to previous years when great mobilization efforts were required, with bad publicity. Before these people volunteered, carrying out the policy of the province, Gia Vien District sent a group of cadres to study site plans with counterpart districts in Lam Dong Province, and they brought in 200 workers ahead of time to create the initial base for the families in Cat Tien (Da Hoai), an area with good potential for raising rice and industrial crops. Gia Vien will bring people to establish three new villages, with the first one here.

If, as previously, the relocation of persons to new communities falls to families with too many children and with economic problems and debts or in trouble with the locality, so that a large number leave and return, now localities observe the concept of population leveling and property sharing. Many districts of Ha Nam Ninh have stressed proper investment in population leveling and property sharing.

While working with us, Comrade Trinh Xuan Duyen, chairman of the Thanh Liem District People's Committee, told us that in the 1st quarter the entire

district bid farewell to 272 families and 1,218 people setting out for Lam Dong; 40 percent of them were economically well off.

The district invested 1 million dong relocating the people and brought worker-peasant tractors along in order to help the families resolve initial difficulties in their new home. Thanh Liem coordinated with the labor distribution branch to rent 50 cars and trucks to transport people and goods for the families to a centralized point for boarding and loading with due care.

Ha Nam Ninh is exploiting results attained and is resolved to win new successes in the field of labor and population distribution. But there are presently difficulties limiting effectiveness in organizing and carrying out this work. As Comrade Dinh Gia Huan said, labor distribution in Ha Nam Ninh is not only to be done during harvest time, but must be carried on 12 months of the year.

Grain must be provided for 12 months to the workers that go. Leaders of provinces relocating people must shoulder responsibility for site planning according to allocations of the central echelon. Only this will enable and facilitate rapid contributions to stability in the standard of living in the new area.

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